Resolutions and Decisions

adopted by the General Assembly
during its seventy-seventh session

Volume I

Resolutions

13 September – 30 December 2022

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NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter “S” and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter “S” and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters “ES” and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters “ES” and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

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The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 13 September to 30 December 2022, as well as the information requested by the Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the seventy-seventh session will be published in volume III.

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RESOLUTION 77/1

Adopted at the 15th plenary meeting, on 7 October 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.3, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

77/1. Solidarity with and support for the Government and people of Pakistan and strengthening of emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and prevention in the wake of the recent devastating floods

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, as well as all its resolutions on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, and recalling the resolutions of the humanitarian segments of the sessions of the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[2] the Paris Agreement[3] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[4]

Reaffirming the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Noting that the massive scale of destruction and loss of life caused by unprecedented floods, triggered by the melting of glaciers and heavy monsoon rains, in an otherwise arid region, reflects the adverse impact of climate change and the growing vulnerability of countries to climate change,

Underlining the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizing the need for action at all levels to enhance efforts to build resilience through, inter alia, the sustainable management of ecosystems, adaptation plans and mitigation strategies, in order to reduce the impacts and costs of natural disasters for the countries that are particularly vulnerable to climate change, including Pakistan,

Deeply concerned about the devastating effects of the unprecedented floods that have resulted in significant loss of life, damage to property, displacement of residents and the loss of livelihoods, food security and nutrition, health security and access to social infrastructure, and about the urgent need to restore normal conditions for the population,

Recognizing the urgency of undertaking a massive rescue and relief operation, and supporting the efforts for rehabilitation and reconstruction,

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[1] Resolution 70/1.

[2] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[3] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[4] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

Reiterating the need for a continued high level of support for and commitment to the immediate humanitarian relief phase, early recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts, including in the medium and long terms, that reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation in addressing the natural disaster,

Welcoming the assistance and contributions of the international community, including Governments, international organizations, civil society and the private sector, in the relief and rehabilitation efforts, which reflect the spirit of international solidarity and cooperation, to address and meet the challenges of the disaster, and in this context also appreciating the role of the people and Government of Pakistan,

Welcoming also the joint launch by the United Nations and the Government of Pakistan on 30 August 2022 of the Pakistan 2022 Floods Response Plan and the continuous engagement of the Secretary-General in the intensification of global relief efforts to meet the urgent and immediate needs of the affected people,

Noting the Secretary-General's call, during and after his visit to Pakistan, for massive assistance to Pakistan both as a gesture of humanitarian solidarity and as what Pakistan has called for as "climate justice",

Reiterating the need for the United Nations system to ensure that the humanitarian, early recovery and reconstruction assistance provided is timely, adequate, effective and coherent and coordinated among all humanitarian and development actors, in coordination with and in support of the Government of Pakistan,

1. *Expresses full solidarity and sympathy* with the people of Pakistan affected by the floods, and support for the Government of Pakistan;

2. *Welcomes* the effective cooperation between the Government of Pakistan and the relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions, relevant international organizations and civil society, as well as national and local relief organizations, in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout the ongoing relief operations and rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that enhances resilience and reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards;

3. *Stresses* the urgent need to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events, and in this regard urges Member States to continue to engage in adaptation planning processes and to enhance cooperation in disaster risk reduction;

4. *Urges* the international community, in particular donor countries, international financial institutions and relevant international organizations, as well as the private sector and civil society, to extend full support and assistance to the Government of Pakistan in its efforts to mitigate the adverse impacts of the floods and to meet the medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction needs;

5. *Recognizes* that enhanced access to international climate finance is important to support mitigation and adaptation efforts in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and also recognizes the ongoing efforts in this regard;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to scale up its humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation of Pakistan, in order to repair and strengthen the country's prospects for achieving sustainable development, and encourages Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to continue to work together to address the different needs of affected populations, particularly the most vulnerable;

7. *Emphasizes* the need for the international community to maintain its focus beyond the present emergency relief, in order to sustain the political will to support the medium- and long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and risk reduction efforts as well as the adaptation plan led by the Government of Pakistan at all levels;

8. *Welcomes* the proposed convening of a pledging conference to generate assistance and commitments for the long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction phases in the disaster-stricken areas, to be held at the earliest opportunity, and calls upon all Member States to participate at the highest level;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the entities of the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to support the Government of Pakistan in the preparation of a climate-resilient reconstruction plan responding to national priorities and development needs and aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement, to be presented at the pledging conference;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General and the entities of the United Nations system to further intensify their efforts to sensitize the international community to the humanitarian, recovery and reconstruction needs of Pakistan and to mobilize effective, immediate and adequate international support and assistance to Pakistan;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to support the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts that are being made by the Government of Pakistan;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure regular follow-up under the Sustainable Development Goals and to provide an update on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly in the second quarter of 2023 and a full report, within existing resources, at its seventy-eighth session under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

RESOLUTION 77/5

Adopted at the 27th plenary meeting, on 2 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.6, sponsored by Singapore

77/5. Plenary meetings of the General Assembly on 8 and 9 December 2022 devoted to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and to the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[5] was opened for signature on 10 December 1982 in Montego Bay, Jamaica,

Recognizing the personalities who served as officers of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea or who otherwise contributed untiringly towards the conclusion of the Convention and its adoption on 30 April 1982,

Recalling its resolution 76/72 of 9 December 2021, in which it decided to devote two days of plenary meetings at its seventy-seventh session, on 8 and 9 December 2022, to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the Convention, including special recognition of the crucial role played by Ambassador Arvid Pardo of Malta and, in particular, his visionary speech delivered on 1 November 1967 before the General Assembly, leading to the adoption of the Convention, and encouraged Member States and observers to be represented at the highest possible level,

Recognizing the recommendation of the General Committee to the General Assembly that it adopt a format for commemorative meetings that includes statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the Chairs of the five regional groups and the representative of the host country,[6] which was adopted at the third plenary meeting of the Assembly, on 16 September 2022,

Decides to adopt the organizational arrangements for the plenary meetings on 8 and 9 December 2022 as outlined in the annex to the present resolution.

Annex
Organizational arrangements for the plenary meetings on 8 and 9 December 2022 devoted to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and to the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

1. Four plenary meetings of the General Assembly shall be held on 8 and 9 December, as follows:

(a) Two plenary meetings, on 8 December 2022, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., shall be devoted to the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

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[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[6] A/77/250, para. 82.

(b) Two plenary meetings, on 9 December 2022, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., shall be devoted to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

2. The list of speakers in the commemoration shall be as follows:

(a) President of the General Assembly, Csaba Kőrösi;

(b) Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres;

(c) President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, Tommy Koh;

(d) President of the thirty-second Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, Vanessa Frazier, to pay special tribute to the late Ambassador Arvid Pardo of Malta;

(e) Chairs of the five regional groups;

(f) Representative of the host country;

(g) President of the International Court of Justice, Judge Joan Donoghue;

(h) President of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority, Satyendra Prasad;

(i) Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority, Michael Lodge;

(j) President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Judge Albert Hoffmann;

(k) Chairperson of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, Adnan Al-Azri.

3. Statements in the commemoration, including statements by delegations, shall be limited to 10 minutes.

RESOLUTION 77/6

Adopted at the 27th plenary meeting, on 2 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.7, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

77/6. Report of the International Criminal Court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/5 of 11 November 2021 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[7] reaffirms the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including the prohibition of the illegal use of force enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing the International Criminal Court as an independent permanent judicial institution and, in this regard, that the United Nations and the Court respect each other's status and mandate,

Reiterating the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute,

Emphasizing that justice, especially transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict societies, is a fundamental building block of sustainable peace,

Convinced that ending impunity is essential for coming to terms with any past crimes committed and preventing such crimes in the future,

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

Acknowledging the fact that the International Criminal Court has achieved considerable progress in its investigations and judicial proceedings in various situations and cases which were referred to it by States parties to the Rome Statute and by the Security Council, and which the Prosecutor of the Court has initiated *proprio motu*, in accordance with the Rome Statute,

Recalling that effective and comprehensive cooperation and assistance in all aspects of its mandate by States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations remain essential for the International Criminal Court to carry out its activities,

Expressing its appreciation to the Secretary-General for providing effective and efficient assistance to the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court,[8]

Acknowledging the Relationship Agreement as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 58/318 of 13 September 2004, including paragraph 3 of the resolution, with respect to the payment in full of expenses accruing to the United Nations as a result of the implementation of the Relationship Agreement,[9] which provides a framework for continued cooperation between the International Criminal Court and the United Nations, which enables, inter alia, facilitation by the United Nations of the Court's field activities, and encouraging the conclusion of supplementary arrangements and agreements, as necessary,

Recalling that referrals by the Security Council can enable the International Criminal Court to exercise jurisdiction over all four crimes under the Rome Statute, the crime of aggression, genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity,

Noting the need for funding of expenses related to investigations or prosecutions of the International Criminal Court, including in connection with situations referred to the Court by the Security Council,

Welcoming the continuous support given by civil society to the International Criminal Court,

Stressing the importance that the Rome Statute accords to the rights and needs of victims, in particular their right to participate in judicial proceedings and to claim reparations, and emphasizing the importance of informing and involving victims and affected communities in order to give effect to the mandate of the International Criminal Court towards victims,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the International Criminal Court for 2021/22;[10]

2. *Also welcomes* the States that have become parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and calls upon all States in all regions of the world that are not yet parties to the Rome Statute to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to it without delay;

3. *Further welcomes* the States parties as well as States not parties to the Rome Statute that are parties to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court,[11] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Agreement;

4. *Notes* the recent ratifications and acceptances of the amendments adopted at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, held in Kampala from 31 May to 11 June 2010;

5. *Underlines*, bearing in mind that in accordance with the Rome Statute the International Criminal Court is complementary to national criminal jurisdictions, that States need to adopt appropriate measures within their national legal systems for those crimes for which they are required under international law to exercise their responsibility to investigate and prosecute;

6. *Encourages* further efforts by the United Nations, other international and regional organizations and States, as well as civil society, to appropriately assist States, upon their request, in strengthening their domestic capacity to investigate and prosecute crimes, and in this regard underlines the importance of national ownership;

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[8] A/58/874 and A/58/874/Add.1.

[9] Articles 10 and 13 of the Relationship Agreement.

[10] A/77/305.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2271, No. 40446.

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of international cooperation and judicial assistance in conducting effective investigations and prosecutions;

8. *Acknowledges* the role of the International Criminal Court in a multilateral system that aims to end impunity, promote the rule of law, promote and encourage respect for human rights, achieve sustainable peace and further the development of nations, in accordance with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

9. *Calls upon* States parties to the Rome Statute that have not yet done so to adopt national legislation to implement obligations emanating from the Rome Statute and to cooperate with the International Criminal Court in the exercise of its functions, and recalls the provision of technical assistance by States parties in this respect;

10. *Welcomes* the cooperation and assistance provided thus far to the International Criminal Court by States parties as well as States not parties, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, and calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences;

11. *Notes* the efforts of the Secretary-General in promoting cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court in accordance with the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court, and also notes in this regard that the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat has a specific role within the United Nations;

12. *Recalls* article 3 of the Relationship Agreement, according to which, with a view to facilitating the effective discharge of their respective responsibilities, the United Nations and the International Criminal Court shall cooperate closely, whenever appropriate, with each other and consult each other on matters of mutual interest pursuant to the provisions of the Relationship Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter and the Rome Statute, and shall respect each other's status and mandate,[12] and requests the Secretary-General to continue to include information relevant to the implementation of article 3 of the Relationship Agreement in a report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

13. *Recalls* the guidance issued by the Secretary-General on contacts with persons who are the subject of arrest warrants or summonses issued by the International Criminal Court,[13] and in this regard takes note of the information included in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of article 3 of the Relationship Agreement;[14]

14. *Recalls* the Relationship Agreement, and notes that expenses related to investigations or prosecutions incurred by the International Criminal Court in connection with situations referred by the Security Council or otherwise continue to be borne exclusively by States parties to the Rome Statute;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of cooperation with States that are not parties to the Rome Statute;

16. *Invites* regional organizations to consider concluding cooperation agreements with the International Criminal Court;

17. *Recalls* that, by virtue of article 12, paragraph 3, of the Rome Statute, if the acceptance of a State which is not a party to the Rome Statute is required under article 12, paragraph 2, of the Rome Statute, that State may, by declaration lodged with the Registrar of the International Criminal Court, accept the exercise of jurisdiction by the Court with respect to the crime in question;

18. *Urges* all States parties to take the interests, needs for assistance and mandate of the International Criminal Court into account when relevant matters are being discussed in the United Nations, and invites all other States to consider doing the same, as appropriate;

19. *Emphasizes* the importance of the full implementation of all aspects of the Relationship Agreement, which forms a framework for close cooperation between the two organizations and for consultation on matters of mutual

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[12] Article 2, paragraph 3, of the Relationship Agreement.

[13] A/67/828-S/2013/210, annex.

[14] A/77/307.

interest pursuant to the provisions of that Agreement and in conformity with the respective provisions of the Charter and the Rome Statute, as well as the need for the Secretary-General to continue to inform the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session of the expenses incurred and reimbursements received by the United Nations in connection with assistance provided to the International Criminal Court;

20. *Encourages* further dialogue between the United Nations and the International Criminal Court, and welcomes in this regard the increased interaction of the Security Council with the Court under various formats, including the holding of open debates on peace and justice and working methods, with a special focus on the role of the Court;

21. *Continues to welcome* the statement by the President of the Security Council of 12 February 2013,[15] in which the Council reiterated its previous call regarding the importance of State cooperation with the International Criminal Court, in accordance with the respective obligations of States, and expressed its commitment to effective follow-up of Council decisions in this regard;

22. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work undertaken by the International Criminal Court liaison office to United Nations Headquarters, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to work closely with that office;

23. *Encourages* States to contribute to the trust fund established for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court and the families of such victims, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that trust fund thus far;

24. *Recalls* that, at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute, which was convened and opened by the Secretary-General, States parties reaffirmed their commitment to the Rome Statute and its full implementation, as well as its universality and integrity, and that the Review Conference undertook a stocktaking exercise of international criminal justice, considering the impact of the Rome Statute on victims and affected communities, peace and justice, complementarity and cooperation, called for the strengthening of the enforcement of sentences, adopted amendments to the Rome Statute to expand the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court to cover three additional war crimes when committed in armed conflicts not of an international character, and adopted amendments to the Rome Statute to define the crime of aggression and to establish conditions under which the Court could exercise jurisdiction with respect to that crime;

25. *Also recalls* the activation of the International Criminal Court's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression as of 17 July 2018;

26. *Further recalls* the amendments to articles 124 and 8 of the Rome Statute adopted by the Assembly of States Parties at the fourteenth, and sixteenth and eighteenth sessions, respectively, and calls upon all States parties to consider ratifying or accepting them;

27. *Acknowledges* the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization;[16]

28. *Takes note* that the International Criminal Court continued its review process initiated by the Assembly of States Parties at its eighteenth session;

29. *Also takes note* of the decision of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court at its eighteenth session, while recalling that, according to article 112, paragraph 6, of the Rome Statute, the Assembly of States Parties shall meet at the seat of the Court or at United Nations Headquarters, to hold its twenty-second session in New York, looks forward to the twenty-second session, scheduled to be held from 4 to 14 December 2023, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and facilities in accordance with the Relationship Agreement and resolution 58/318;

30. *Encourages* the widest possible participation of States in the Assembly of States Parties, invites States to contribute to the trust fund for the participation of the least developed countries, and acknowledges with appreciation contributions made to that trust fund thus far;

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[15] S/PRST/2013/2; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2012–31 July 2013* (S/INF/68).

[16] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/77/1).

31. *Invites* the International Criminal Court to submit, if it deems it appropriate, in accordance with article 6 of the Relationship Agreement, a report on its activities for 2022/23, for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 77/7

Adopted at the 28th plenary meeting, on 3 November 2022, by a recorded vote of 185 to 2, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.5, sponsored by Cuba

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Against: Israel, United States of America
Abstaining: Brazil, Ukraine

77/7. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the Heads of State or Government of Latin America and the Caribbean at the Summits of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States regarding the need to put an end to the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed against Cuba,

Concerned about the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as "the Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

Taking note of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of measures of the kind referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997, 53/4 of 14 October 1998, 54/21 of 9 November 1999, 55/20 of 9 November 2000, 56/9 of 27 November 2001, 57/11 of 12 November 2002, 58/7 of 4 November 2003, 59/11 of 28 October 2004, 60/12 of 8 November 2005, 61/11 of 8 November 2006, 62/3 of 30 October 2007, 63/7 of 29 October 2008, 64/6 of 28 October 2009, 65/6 of 26 October 2010, 66/6 of 25 October 2011, 67/4 of 13 November 2012, 68/8 of 29 October 2013, 69/5 of 28 October 2014, 70/5 of 27 October 2015, 71/5

of 26 October 2016, 72/4 of 1 November 2017, 73/8 of 1 November 2018, 74/7 of 7 November 2019 and 75/289 of 23 June 2021 and its decision 76/563 of 11 May 2022,

Recalling also the measures adopted by the Executive of the United States of America in 2015 and 2016 to modify several aspects of the application of the embargo, which contrast with the measures applied since 2017 to reinforce its implementation,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21, 55/20, 56/9, 57/11, 58/7, 59/11, 60/12, 61/11, 62/3, 63/7, 64/6, 65/6, 66/6, 67/4, 68/8, 69/5, 70/5, 71/5, 72/4, 73/8, 74/7 and 75/289, the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba is still in place, and concerned also about the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 75/289;[17]

2. *Reiterates* its call upon all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution, in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the steps necessary to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

RESOLUTION 77/8

Adopted at the 30th plenary meeting, on 7 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.8, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia

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,[18] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[19] and its Optional Protocols,[20] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[21] the International

[17] A/76/405 and A/77/358.

[18] Resolution 217 A (III).

[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[20] Ibid., vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

[21] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[22] and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[23] and recalling all other relevant international treaties,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[24] 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,

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.

RESOLUTION 77/9

Adopted at the 32nd plenary meeting, on 9 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.9, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America

[22] Ibid.

[23] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[24] Resolution 70/1.

77/9. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for 2021,[25]

Taking note of the statement by the Director General of the Agency, in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 2022,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency,

Recognizing also the cooperation between the United Nations and the Agency and the Agreement governing the relationship between the United Nations and the Agency as approved by the General Conference of the Agency on 23 October 1957 and by the General Assembly in the annex to its resolution 1145 (XII) of 14 November 1957,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

2. *Takes note* of resolutions GC(66)/RES/6, entitled "Nuclear and radiation safety"; GC(66)/RES/7, entitled "Nuclear security"; GC(66)/RES/8, entitled "Strengthening of the Agency's technical cooperation activities"; GC(66)/RES/9, entitled "Strengthening the Agency's activities related to nuclear science, technology and applications", comprising GC(66)/RES/9 A, entitled "Non-power nuclear applications", GC(66)/RES/9 B, entitled "Nuclear power applications", and GC(66)/RES/9 C, entitled "Nuclear knowledge management"; GC(66)/RES/10, entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of Agency safeguards"; GC(66)/RES/11, entitled "Implementation of the NPT safeguards agreement between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea"; and GC(66)/RES/12, entitled "Application of IAEA safeguards in the Middle East"; and decisions GC(66)/DEC/10, entitled "Amendment to Article XIV.A of the Statute"; GC(66)/DEC/11, entitled "Promotion of efficiency and effectiveness of the IAEA decision making process"; and GC(66)/DEC/12, entitled "Restoration of sovereign equality in the IAEA", adopted by the General Conference of the Agency at its sixty-sixth regular session, held from 26 to 30 September 2022;

3. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the indispensable role of the Agency in encouraging and assisting the development and practical application of atomic energy for peaceful uses, in technology transfer to developing countries and in nuclear safety, verification and security;

4. *Appeals* to Member States to continue to support the activities of the Agency;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

RESOLUTION 77/10

Adopted at the 33rd plenary meeting, on 10 November 2022, by a recorded vote of 116 to none, with 10 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.11, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Ukraine,

[25] See A/77/308.

United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen

Against: None

Abstaining: Belarus, Burundi, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Zimbabwe

77/10. The situation in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 75/90 of 10 December 2020 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 2626 (2022) of 17 March 2022, and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Strongly emphasizing the importance of the establishment of an inclusive and representative government, and further emphasizing the importance of upholding human rights, including for women, children and persons belonging to minorities, and of promoting full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women in all aspects of Afghan society,

Reiterating the vital importance of Afghanistan achieving lasting peace, sustainable development, rehabilitation and economic stability as well as the elimination of all threats, which still pose tremendous challenges for the stability of Afghanistan and regional security,

Expressing its deep concern regarding the dire economic and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan, including alarming levels of food insecurity, and recognizing the need to help to address the substantial challenges facing the economy of Afghanistan, including through efforts to restore the banking and financial systems and enabling access to assets belonging to the Central Bank of Afghanistan for the benefit of the Afghan people, as well as the need to strengthen efforts to provide humanitarian assistance and other activities that support basic human needs in Afghanistan, including unhindered humanitarian access,

Reiterating its serious concern about the security situation in Afghanistan and the urgent need to overcome the challenges facing the country and its civilian population, in particular the threat posed by terrorist groups, such as Al-Qaida and Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh) and their affiliates, including ISIL-Khorasan Province, to Afghanistan and the region, and cautioning against attempts to derail peace and stability in Afghanistan,

Emphasizing the important role of regional cooperation to promote long-term stability, peace, security, prosperity, sustainable development and human rights in Afghanistan, and welcoming the efforts by regional organizations, international partners and regional and neighbouring countries in this regard,

Noting the first annual report on human rights of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, released in July 2022, and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan released in September 2022,[26]

Recalling the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women, which recognizes the importance of the inclusion of women in decision-making processes, full and equal access to education for boys and girls at all levels, women's and girls' access to quality health care and services, equal economic opportunities for men and women, equal access to humanitarian assistance, and combating all forms of violence against women and girls,

Stressing the central and impartial role of the United Nations in promoting peace and stability in Afghanistan, expressing its appreciation and strong support for all the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Afghanistan in this regard, and expressing its appreciation and full support, in particular, for the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan,

[26] A/HRC/51/6.

Welcoming the reports of the Secretary-General,

1. *Expresses deep concern* over the developments and the volatility in Afghanistan since the takeover of the Taliban, and the dire economic, humanitarian and social conditions, persistent violence and the presence of terrorist groups, the absence of political inclusivity and representative decision-making, as well as abuse of human rights, including those of women, girls and persons belonging to minorities;

2. *Maintains* that sustainable and lasting peace can be achieved only through long-term social, economic and political stability, which requires full respect for civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights as well as commitment to inclusive and representative governance;

3. *Pledges its continued support* to the people of Afghanistan in order to rebuild a stable, secure and economically self-sufficient State, free of terrorism, narcotics, transnational organized crime, including trafficking in persons, and corruption, and to strengthen the foundations of a constitutional democracy as a responsible member of the international community;

4. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the international community, including neighbouring countries, donor agencies and other international organizations in urgent provision of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, and emphasizes that long-term peace, security, prosperity and sustainable development in Afghanistan and the region require closer and more effective cooperation as well as greater coherence and complementarity of approach within the international community;

5. *Reaffirms its expectation* that the Taliban live up to their commitments regarding the safe, secure and orderly departure from Afghanistan of all Afghans willing to leave and of all foreign nationals, with no one preventing them from travelling from the country, as well as facilitating the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of all refugees, and also reaffirms its expectation that the Taliban build upon their announcement of general amnesty to encourage the return of former Afghan officials and to promote inclusivity in the governance of Afghanistan;

6. *Urges* Afghanistan to honour and fully respect and implement all treaties, covenants or conventions, bilateral or multilateral, to which it is party;

7. *Calls upon* the Taliban to fulfil and respect their assurances for the safety and security of diplomatic personnel and premises, humanitarian workers and international organizations in Afghanistan;

8. *Emphasizes* that relations of all relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders with the international community will be informed by their commitments, actions and achievements with regard to the expectations of the Afghan people widely shared by the international community;

Human rights, governance and the rule of law

9. *Expresses its deep concern* about abuse of human rights, especially those of women and girls, including sexual violence, and persons belonging to minorities, and about the growing repression of fundamental freedoms, recalls the obligations of Afghanistan under international law, in particular human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, and stresses the need to ensure respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular the full enjoyment by women and girls, children, persons with disabilities and persons belonging to minorities of their human rights;

10. *Reiterates its unwavering commitment* to international humanitarian law and the human rights of all Afghans, emphasizing the importance of the meaningful participation of women in all spheres of life and of upholding human rights, including for women, children and persons belonging to minorities, expresses, in particular, its serious concern about the situation of women and girls, the imposition of restrictions on their full, equal, meaningful and safe participation in public life, including their freedom of movement, and the lack of equal access to education, especially the decision by the Taliban not to reopen secondary schools to Afghan girls, economic and job opportunities, justice and other services, and calls upon the Taliban to reverse the policies and practices restricting the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by Afghan women and girls;

11. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children in Afghanistan and to end and prevent all abuses against children, encourages the full implementation of the Convention

on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto,[27] and strongly condemns all forms of violence against children;

12. *Reiterates* the importance of dialogue between all relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders with a focus on the establishment of inclusive, representative, participatory and responsive governance at the national and subnational levels, without any discrimination based on gender, religion or ethnicity, with the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women and the meaningful participation of persons belonging to minorities, youth and persons with disabilities;

13. *Strongly emphasizes* the necessity of investigating allegations of current and past human rights abuses and violations in Afghanistan, and stresses the importance of facilitating the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims and survivors and of bringing those responsible to justice in accordance with national and international law;

14. *Condemns in particular* all attacks, reprisals and violence against journalists and media workers, as well as the particular restrictions that women media workers face, urges that the perpetrators of harassment of and attacks on journalists be brought to justice in accordance with national and international law, and urges all relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders to ensure and respect freedom of opinion and expression, media freedom and access to media;

15. *Expresses its concern* about reports of extrajudicial punishments, such as reprisals and summary executions, disappearances and detentions, including those against former members of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces and other officials;

16. *Reiterates* that sustained and effective efforts in fighting corruption in Afghanistan remain critical for the country's future, and urges all relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders to promote the rule of law and address impunity for corruption, and establish a more effective, accountable and transparent administration at the national, provincial and local levels;

Security, counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics

17. *Reiterates its serious concern* about the security situation and the continuing violence in Afghanistan, the presence of terrorist groups such as Al-Qaida and Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh) and their affiliates, including ISIL-Khorasan Province, as well as the presence of foreign terrorist fighters, and expresses its serious concern about cowardly and heinous attacks by ISIL-Khorasan Province against civilians and civilian infrastructure, which have especially targeted educational facilities, diplomatic premises and personnel and religious sites belonging to minorities, as well as deplorable attempts to undermine relations between communities, posing a serious threat to the security of Afghanistan, its immediate neighbours and the countries of the region;

18. *Reaffirms* the importance of combating terrorism in Afghanistan, including those individuals and groups designated by the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) and of preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, demands that the territory of Afghanistan not be used as a platform or safe haven by any terrorist group, organization or individual to threaten or attack any country, to plan or finance terrorist acts or to shelter and train terrorists, and that no Afghan group or individual should support terrorists operating on the territory of any country, and calls upon the Taliban to take concrete steps against all terrorist organizations, in particular Al-Qaida and Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (Da'esh) and their affiliates;

19. *Recognizes* that terrorism has devastating consequences on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of victims and their families, deplores the suffering of the people of Afghanistan, and reaffirms its profound solidarity with them, and emphasizes the need to promote international solidarity in support of victims of terrorism and to ensure that victims of terrorism are treated with dignity and respect, and that their right to access to justice and redress mechanisms, as provided for in applicable domestic law and in accordance with principles of international law, is fully respected;

20. *Stresses* the need for neighbouring and regional countries and the international community to continue to work closely together and to improve coordination in countering all acts of terrorism and the associated threats,

[27] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 1577, 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

including the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters and terrorism financing in Afghanistan and the region, and affirms its support for continued efforts in this regard;

21. *Remains deeply concerned* about the persistent harm to civilians, including the disproportionate impact on children, caused by anti-personnel landmines, explosive remnants of war, improvised explosive devices and weapons, encourages all relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders to continue efforts to eradicate the threat posed by anti-personnel landmines and improvised explosive devices, and encourages steps towards addressing the illicit trade in and destabilizing accumulation of small arms and light weapons in Afghanistan;

22. *Expresses its continued deep concern* at the undiminished serious threat and harm that illicit opium cultivation and methamphetamine production as well as consumption and trafficking of these drugs continue to cause to the security, development and governance of Afghanistan, as well as to the region and beyond, and, recognizing that such activities can significantly contribute to the financial resources of terrorist groups operating in the region, calls upon States to strengthen international and regional cooperation to counter this threat, and recognizes the important role played by neighbouring countries of Afghanistan in combating and countering international drug trafficking, as well as the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

23. *Stresses* the importance of the narcotics ban on the cultivation, production, trafficking and consumption of illicit drugs, takes note of the announcement by the Taliban of a ban on opium cultivation and calls for its full implementation, and emphasizes the importance of a comprehensive and balanced approach in addressing the drug problem of Afghanistan, which, to be effective, must be integrated into the wider context of efforts carried out in the areas of security, governance, the rule of law, human rights, public health and economic and social development, in particular in rural areas, including the development of improved alternative livelihood programmes;

24. *Notes with great concern* the strong nexus between drug trafficking and terrorism in Afghanistan, stresses the importance of continued attention to the linkages in Afghanistan between the proceeds of organized crime, inter alia, the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs and their chemical precursors and the financing, respectively, of those individuals and groups designated by the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015), and underscores the need to improve the necessary capacity of the relevant Afghan institutions to address challenges posed by terrorism, narcotics, smuggling, money-laundering and organized crime;

Humanitarian assistance

25. *Notes with grave concern* the dire humanitarian situation affecting Afghanistan, with millions of people facing emergency levels of food insecurity, acknowledges that women and children, including girls, are disproportionally affected by the humanitarian and economic crisis, urges the international community to provide, in accordance with international law, including international humanitarian law, and consistent with humanitarian principles, humanitarian assistance and financial resources to support humanitarian activities across Afghanistan, and calls for support to the 2022 Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan;

26. *Takes note* of Security Council resolution 2615 (2021) of 22 December 2021, in which the Council underlined that humanitarian assistance and other activities that support basic human needs in Afghanistan were not a violation of paragraph 1 (a) of Council resolution 2255 (2015) of 21 December 2015, while recalling the need to minimize and monitor the risk of aid diversion;

27. *Calls upon* all actors to work towards improving the accessibility of the full spectrum of activities by humanitarian and development agencies and personnel, including all Afghans across all ethnic groups, in all areas of the country, in support of all people in need, including women, children, displaced persons, minorities and persons with disabilities, as well as to support efforts to create conditions conducive to a voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return and reintegration of internally displaced persons and refugee populations, in particular those in neighbouring countries which have faced a major influx of refugees;

28. *Emphasizes in particular* that the effective delivery of humanitarian assistance requires all actors to allow full, safe and unhindered humanitarian access for all humanitarian personnel, including women, for United Nations agencies, international and national non-governmental organizations, and other humanitarian actors, and affirms the importance of sustained engagement of the international community with Afghanistan, especially in supporting humanitarian and basic human needs of the Afghan people;

Social and economic development

29. *Recognizes* the necessity of improving the living conditions of the Afghan people, and therefore emphasizes the need to address basic human needs across Afghanistan, in particular equal access to basic services such as education and public health services, taking into account Security Council resolution 2615 (2021);

30. *Also recognizes* the need to help to address the substantial challenges facing the economy of Afghanistan, including through efforts to restore the banking and financial systems as well as enabling access to assets belonging to the Central Bank of Afghanistan for the benefit of the Afghan people, acknowledges that the financial system of Afghanistan continues to face serious challenges, and calls upon all relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders to create favourable conditions for economic activity and recovery by adhering to the rule of law, respecting fully civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights, ensuring educational rights for all Afghans, including women and girls, by providing responsible and accountable governance, and expanding the capacities and professionalism of Afghan institutions;

31. *Encourages* continued efforts, working with all relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders, to contribute to supporting the provision of essential services to the Afghan population and to creating economic and social conditions that can lead to self-reliance and stability and to facilitate commercial and financial activity in Afghanistan for the benefit of the Afghan people, including through efforts to restore the banking and financial systems in Afghanistan;

32. *Recalls its concern* about the adverse impact of climate change, natural disasters and environmental issues in Afghanistan, and emphasizes the urgent need to build resilience, especially for the most vulnerable, including through the revitalization of sustainable food systems;

Refugees

33. *Expresses its concern* over the increase in the number of internally displaced persons in and refugees from Afghanistan, recalls the respective obligations of States under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees, to respect the principle of voluntary return of refugees and the right to seek asylum and to ensure full, safe and unhindered access for humanitarian relief agencies in order to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and refugees, and calls upon States to continue to accept an appropriate number of Afghan refugees for resettlement, as a manifestation of their shared responsibility and solidarity;

34. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that host Afghan refugees, in particular the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, acknowledging the huge burden that they have so far shouldered as neighbouring States, calls for continued generous support by the international community, and also asks relevant international organizations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration, to continue to work closely with all relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders and the countries hosting Afghan refugees with a view to facilitating their voluntary, safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration;

35. *Recognizes* the important role played by Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and other neighbouring and regional States in coordinating wider regional and global resettlement efforts for Afghan refugees;

36. *Underlines* the centrality of international cooperation to the refugee protection regime, recognizes the burden that large movements of refugees place on major and long-standing refugee-hosting countries and communities, as well as their national resources, especially in the case of developing countries, and calls for a more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's refugees, addressing the needs of refugees and hosting States, while taking account of existing contributions and the differing capacities and resources among States;

37. *Reaffirms* that peace and stability, social and economic development, respect for human rights and inclusive government in Afghanistan would also contribute to the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of all Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons to play their constructive role in Afghanistan;

38. *Recognizes* the important role played by neighbouring and regional States, including Pakistan, in coordinating wider regional and global resettlement efforts for Afghan refugees as well as facilitating the relocation of people of various nationalities from Afghanistan;

Regional cooperation

39. *Stresses* the crucial importance of advancing constructive and sustainable regional cooperation as an effective means of promoting and complementing peace, security, stability and economic and social development in Afghanistan and the region, and recognizes in this regard the importance of the contribution of neighbouring and regional partners and regional organizations;

40. *Recognizes* the importance of the potential role of Afghanistan in connecting Central and South Asia, as well as its economic development and integration into interregional economic processes for lasting peace and stability;

41. *Notes* the historical role of Afghanistan as a land bridge in Asia, and recalls that regional economic cooperation plays an important role in achieving stability and development in Afghanistan;

42. *Recognizes* the importance of regional connectivity projects with Central Asia that can provide a pathway to economic growth and stabilization in Afghanistan;

43. *Expresses appreciation* for the commitment of neighbouring and regional partners to peace and stability in Afghanistan and Central Asia, for demonstrating unwavering support to the United Nations, and in this respect recognizes the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan for hosting in Almaty in crucial times a temporary remote office of the United Nations presence in Afghanistan;

44. *Welcomes* the work of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia;

United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

45. *Fully supports* the work of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, as mandated by the Security Council in its resolution 2626 (2022), stresses the critical importance of the continued presence of the Mission and other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes across Afghanistan, and expresses its appreciation for the appointment of the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan;

46. *Reiterates* the necessity for all relevant Afghan political actors and stakeholders as well as international actors to coordinate with the Mission and other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes across Afghanistan in the implementation of their mandates and to ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel, irrespective of gender, throughout the country;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report every three months on developments in Afghanistan, as well as on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

48. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan".

RESOLUTION 77/11

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.4, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Viet Nam

77/11. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[28]

[28] A/77/277-S/2022/606.

Taking note also of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,[29]

Noting with appreciation the New York liaison mechanism between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization established in June 2017,

Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization".

RESOLUTION 77/12

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.12/Rev.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cambodia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), Canada, China, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia

77/12. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling the aims and purposes of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, as enshrined in the Bangkok Declaration of 8 August 1967,[30] in particular the maintenance of close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes,

Noting the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which came into force on 15 December 2008,[31] particularly on upholding the Charter of the United Nations and international law,

Noting with satisfaction that the activities of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling all previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,[32]

Recalling also the fiftieth anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in 2017, under the chairmanship of the Philippines, and its resolution 71/317 of 19 July 2017 on the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,

Welcoming the fifty-fifth anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in 2022, under the chairmanship of Cambodia, under the theme "Association of Southeast Asian Nations ACT: addressing challenges together",

Recalling the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations in 2020, during which States Members of the United Nations strongly reaffirmed their commitment to reinvigorated multilateralism to tackle global challenges and

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[29] A/77/95/Rev.1.

[30] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1331, No. 22341.

[31] Ibid., vol. 2624, No. 46745.

[32] Resolutions 57/35, 59/5, 61/46, 63/35, 65/235, 67/110, 69/110, 71/255, 73/259 and 75/15.

strengthen United Nations partnership with regional and subregional organizations, and welcoming continued commitments and efforts by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to uphold multilateralism and the rule of law,

Recognizing the continued significance of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women[33] and Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security, and Council resolution 2538 (2020) of 28 August 2020 on bolstering women's full, effective and meaningful participation in peacekeeping at all levels and in all positions,

Welcoming in this regard efforts and commitments by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and to advance the women and peace and security agenda, and welcoming also the successful convening of the second Association of Southeast Asian Nations Women Leaders' Summit on 12 October 2022 in Cambodia,

Acknowledging the work of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the area of peacekeeping through its Peacekeeping Centres Network and Defence Ministers Meeting Plus Experts' Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations, which focuses primarily on capacity-building both for policy and operational aspects and also promotes the advancement of the women and peace and security agenda, as well as the youth, peace and security agenda,

Noting with appreciation the progress made in the implementation of the Framework Agreement for Cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations Children's Fund, which has contributed significantly in promoting and protecting the rights of women and children, and noting further the strengthening of the social service workforce in the region through the implementation of the Road Map for the Implementation of the Hanoi Declaration on Strengthening Social Work for Cohesive and Responsive Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community,

Recognizing the immense impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), including human cost and suffering as well as profound socioeconomic effects, while underscoring the importance of enhanced international cooperation and multilateral efforts in addressing unprecedented challenges caused by the pandemic,

Recognizing also efforts by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to advance its collective response to the COVID-19 pandemic, enhance cooperation with its external partners, including the United Nations, and the international community in the fight against COVID-19, as well as mitigate the multifaceted impact of the pandemic towards swift and sustainable recovery, and acknowledging in this regard the declaration of the special Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit on COVID-19 held on 14 April 2020[34] and other subsequent measures, including the establishment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations COVID-19 Response Fund, the ongoing implementation of the Comprehensive Recovery Framework and Implementation Plan and the cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the World Health Organization in responding to COVID-19,

Welcoming the successful convening of the second Association of Southeast Asian Nations global dialogue on post-COVID-19 comprehensive recovery on 13 November 2022 in Phnom Penh, during which participants reaffirmed their commitment to working together towards accelerating inclusive, sustainable and resilient post-pandemic socioeconomic recovery in the region,

Noting with appreciation the continued support of the United Nations for the ongoing work of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management through its capacity-building programmes in addressing disaster risk reduction and management, emergency response and humanitarian assistance in the region,

Welcoming the tenth anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Institute for Peace and Reconciliation, as well as the close cooperation of the Institute and the United Nations, including through the first Institute and United Nations regional workshop on youth, peace and security, to be hosted by the Lao People's Democratic Republic in December 2022, and recognizing the need to further enhance cooperation in preventive diplomacy, conflict prevention and confidence-building, including collaboration between the United Nations and the Institute,

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[33] *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.

[34] A/74/811, annex.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[35]

Commending the contribution of the Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations, which marked its tenth anniversary in 2021, to the realization of their common goals for peace, stability and sustainable development, and noting with satisfaction the progress of the implementation of the Plan of Action to Implement the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (2021–2025), with 120 of 140, or 86 per cent, of its action lines having been addressed as of September 2022,

Welcoming the participation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the high-level meetings between the United Nations and regional organizations, as well as the collaboration between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to promote dialogue and cooperation among regional organizations in Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling the First to Twelfth Summits of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations and the commitment of the leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Secretary-General of the United Nations to further deepen their comprehensive partnership,

Welcoming progress in the implementation of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations 2025: Forging Ahead Together and its three Community Blueprints, and the three Midterm Reviews of the Implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community Blueprints 2025,

Noting with satisfaction the progress of the Initiative for Association of Southeast Asian Nations Integration Work Plan IV (2021–2025) and the Midterm Review of the Master Plan on Association of Southeast Asian Nations Connectivity 2025, and agreeing to explore opportunities and technical training programmes that would help to narrow the development gap in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations through its Work Plan IV,

Recognizing the efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to strengthen its institutions, and in this regard recalling the establishment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community on 31 December 2015,

1. *Welcomes* the progress towards achieving the implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community Vision 2025, which will ensure lasting peace and stability, sustained economic growth, shared prosperity and social progress in the region;

2. *Reaffirms* the commitment of the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to further strengthening their partnership, as described in the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Partnership between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations, issued on 19 November 2011, and in ensuring their current Plan of Action (2021–2025);

3. *Encourages* the United Nations, including the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and other relevant United Nations entities, to continue to work closely with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[36] and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community Vision 2025, to promote complementarities and partnership between the two to ensure that regional integration efforts in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations reinforce the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and vice versa, through implementation of the Complementarities Road Map (2020–2025), the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, the annual High-level Brainstorming Dialogue on Enhancing Complementarities between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Community Vision 2025 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as other concrete activities and projects under their Plan of Action (2021–2025);

4. *Welcomes* the United Nations support for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Centre for Sustainable Development Studies and Dialogue in Thailand in order to encourage research and studies, build capacities of States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations as well as support dialogue and enhance cooperation on sustainable development between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and its external partners, including the United Nations and its relevant entities;

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[35] See A/77/277-S/2022/606, sect. II.

[36] Resolution 70/1.

5. *Encourages* continued efforts to resume the convening of annual meetings of the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, with a view to further enhancing the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations comprehensive partnership, including by reviewing, overseeing and directing the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Encourages* the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to continue regular meetings of senior officials, ministerial meetings and summits, and in this regard welcomes the convening of the Twelfth Summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations on 11 November 2022;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations to provide strengthened support, including through exchanges of relevant experiences, information, best practices, lessons learned and capacity-building, based on mutual respect, for the relevant Association of Southeast Asian Nations mechanisms and Association of Southeast Asian Nations-led arrangements, as appropriate;

8. *Reaffirms* the importance of enhancing regional security and cooperation and the peaceful settlement of disputes to promote peace, stability and prosperity, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Charter of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia[37] and international law;

9. *Supports* the convening of workshops and seminars between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to promote dialogue on regional and global security issues, including conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, disarmament and non-proliferation, cybersecurity, peacekeeping operations, transnational crime, illicit trafficking in wildlife and timber, counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, based on mutual trust, shared interests and mutual respect;

10. *Encourages* cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to exchange expertise, best practices, lessons learned and experiences and promote capacity-building in countering terrorism and radicalization to terrorism and in preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, inter alia through the provision of United Nations technical support under the coordination of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Bali Work Plan, as well as in addressing the growing threats of transnational crime and cross-border challenges, which require comprehensive approaches, including through effective regional cooperation, in order to foster a more secure, interconnected and prosperous Association of Southeast Asian Nations community;

11. *Also encourages* cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the field of human rights, particularly through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children, based on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Human Rights Declaration, the Phnom Penh Statement on the Adoption of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Human Rights Declaration, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[38] and other international human rights instruments and mechanisms to which all of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations are parties, and in this regard takes note of the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Human Rights Declaration in 2022 and the meeting on the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights-United Nations interface, held on 16 November 2022 in Cambodia;

12. *Acknowledges* the importance of maritime cooperation, including maritime security cooperation, between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, including in the form of training workshops and the exchange of relevant experiences, information, best practices and lessons learned, to further promote the rule of law and the implementation of relevant international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[39] and other international instruments, and underscores the need to further strengthen such cooperation in order to address related issues and challenges;

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[37] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1025, No. 15063.

[38] Resolution 217 A (III).

[39] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

13. *Reiterates* the importance of regional integration and enhancement of connectivity in the South-East Asian region and their potential contribution to regional and global peace, prosperity and sustainable development, and in this regard encourages cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the United Nations to narrow the development gap within and between the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and also encourages support by the United Nations in the implementation of the Master Plan on Association of Southeast Asian Nations Connectivity 2025;

14. *Welcomes* the ongoing progress of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in implementing its Economic Community Blueprint 2025, and encourages continued efforts and enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations towards deepening economic integration both within the region and in the global economy, including through capacity-building and advisory services in areas such as trade and investment, the development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, regulatory frameworks, global supply chains and resource management, tourism, energy sustainability, interconnectivity, science, technology and innovation, paperless trade and e-commerce;

15. *Encourages* continued partnership of the United Nations in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Smart Cities Network, which is part of the integration efforts of the Association that synergize development efforts, promote greater cooperation among member cities, the private sector and external partners, spearhead smart city development and sustainable urbanization, with the goal of improving the lives of the citizens of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations by using technology and digital infrastructure as enablers, and facilitate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals;

16. *Also encourages* efforts to develop effective partnerships and promote closer cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in peacekeeping, peacebuilding and sustaining peace, by engaging in joint peacekeeping and peacebuilding-related activities and training under the Plan of Action (2021–2025), increasing women's participation in peace processes and pursuing the United Nations triangular partnership project among participating States members of the Association, and in the context of the Action for Peacekeeping initiative and Action for Peacekeeping Plus;

17. *Welcomes* efforts to promote mine action at the global level, including at the United Nations, and encourages collaboration between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Mine Action Centre, including the sharing of expertise and best practices, training and capacity-building activities, in addressing the humanitarian aspects of landmines and explosive remnants of war;

18. *Encourages* closer cooperation on disaster risk reduction, emergency response and management between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in order to ensure an effective response to and management of natural disasters, strengthen climate change adaptation measures and build resilience to disasters through the implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations-United Nations Joint Strategic Plan of Action on Disaster Management (2021–2025), to enhance the capacity of and technical support to Association of Southeast Asian Nations relevant initiatives and centres through the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, and to realize the vision of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to be a global leader in disaster management;

19. *Also encourages* closer cooperation on the culture of peace agenda between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, including through the six thrusts of the 2017 Association of Southeast Asian Nations Declaration on Culture of Prevention for a Peaceful, Inclusive, Resilient, Healthy and Harmonious Society;

20. *Further encourages* cooperation and collaborative efforts between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in addressing environmental sustainability, climate change, biodiversity conservation, including through the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Centre for Biodiversity, as well as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Centre for Climate Change in Brunei Darussalam, once established, and the protection, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems, including the prevention and reduction of marine plastic debris;

21. *Encourages* the continued conduct of the two organizations' secretariat-to-secretariat meeting to review the implementation of their Plan of Action (2021–2025), noting the most recent meeting, held on the sidelines of the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, on 21 September 2022 in New York, and further encourages the frequent exchange of information between sectoral desk officers of the two secretariats on programmes, activities and projects to explore potential partnerships in areas of mutual interest;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-ninth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations".

RESOLUTION 77/13

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, by a recorded vote of 51 to 7, with 70 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.13, sponsored by: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan

* *In favour:* Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen

Against: Guatemala, Liberia, Lithuania, Marshall Islands, North Macedonia, Poland, Ukraine

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

77/13. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[40]

Referring to the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage measures for regional cooperation to advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Referring also to its resolution 59/50 of 2 December 2004, in which it granted the Collective Security Treaty Organization observer status in the General Assembly,

Referring further to its resolutions 64/256 of 2 March 2010, 65/122 of 13 December 2010, 67/6 of 19 November 2012, 69/12 of 11 November 2014, 71/12 of 21 November 2016, 73/331 of 25 July 2019 and 75/276 of 28 April 2021 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization and to its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security,[41]

Referring to all previous relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, and the relevant statements by its President, including those of 13 January 2010[42] and 6 August 2013,[43] which underline the importance of developing effective partnerships between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and statutes of regional and subregional organizations,

Referring also to the Joint Declaration on Cooperation between the Secretariats of the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization of 18 March 2010,

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[40] A/77/277-S/2022/606.

[41] Resolution 49/57, annex.

[42] S/PRST/2010/1; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2009–31 July 2010* (S/INF/65).

[43] S/PRST/2013/12; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

Noting with satisfaction that, since the signing of the Collective Security Treaty, the Collective Security Treaty Organization has transformed into a multifunctional structure with the potential to provide an adequate response to a wide range of threats and challenges within the area of its responsibility,

Encouraging the efforts by the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to attain objectives consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Stressing the importance of continuing to strive towards achieving a world free of terrorism, including through the comprehensive implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[44] and relevant resolutions of the United Nations, noting also in this regard the various initiatives by member States and regional organizations,

Commending the practical steps of the Collective Security Treaty Organization for the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, including cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization in the area of counter-terrorism, in particular on the basis of the memorandum of understanding on cooperation and interaction between the secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, signed on 9 November 2018,

Welcoming the practical contribution of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session,[45] for the period 2009–2019, as well as the outcome document of the 2016 General Assembly special session on the world drug problem,[46] and emphasizing in particular the great practical importance of the regional operation of the Collective Security Treaty Organization "Kanal", conducted under the counter-narcotics strategy of the States members of the Organization for the period 2021–2025, to combat the smuggling of Afghan opiates and the cannabis group of drugs, cocaine and synthetic substances into the territory of States of the Eurasian region and to counter the activities of organized drug groups and their leaders,

Noting the important efforts of the Collective Security Treaty Organization through its regional operation "Nelegal", aimed at reducing the incidence and negative impact of irregular migration,

Noting with appreciation the progress in enhancing practical cooperation based on the memorandum of understanding between the secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations Secretariat of 28 September 2012 on peacekeeping operations, including contributions of States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to United Nations peacekeeping operations, as well as the participation of United Nations representatives in Collective Security Treaty Organization peacekeeping training drills,

Welcoming the signing on 17 January 2017 of the memorandum of understanding between the secretariat of the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Noting the firm intention of both organizations to further strengthen existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the priority areas of cooperation,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations, and acknowledges in particular the development of mutually beneficial interaction between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the significant practical contribution and efforts of the Collective Security Treaty Organization to strengthen its peacekeeping capacities and the system of regional security and stability, to counter terrorism and transnational organized crime, to combat illicit trafficking in drugs and weapons, and irregular migration and human trafficking, and to recover from natural and human-made disasters, thereby contributing to the attainment of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

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[44] Resolution 60/288.

[45] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[46] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

3. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization to enhance coordination and cooperation in the areas of mutual interest and to develop concrete modalities for such cooperation, and encourages them to continue their collaboration, including the exchange of information;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, through bilateral contacts and various formats, including consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

5. *Invites* the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization to continue their interaction in the interest of the consistent and comprehensive implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy;

6. *Invites* increased cooperation and coordination among the specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system and the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the development of their direct contacts in areas of mutual interest;

7. *Encourages* both organizations to continue to examine possible ways to further strengthen their interaction in the area of peacekeeping;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization".

RESOLUTION 77/14

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.14, as orally revised, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

77/14. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/10 of 26 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and considered it mutually advantageous to provide for cooperation between the United Nations and the Community, as well as its resolutions 59/21 of 8 November 2004, 61/223 of 20 December 2006, 63/143 of 11 December 2008, 65/139 of 16 December 2010, 67/252 of 26 March 2013, 69/311 of 6 July 2015, 71/324 of 8 September 2017 and 73/339 of 12 September 2019,

Recalling also the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular of Chapter VIII, that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and Security Council resolution 2457 (2019) of 27 February 2019 on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security: silencing the guns in Africa,

Considering that the activities of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries complement and support the work of the United Nations, and taking into account in that regard the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations of 11 September 2020,[47]

Considering also the relevance of the Portuguese language in international affairs, unifying over 278 million people in nine countries and four continents, and noting the political commitment of the Community of Portuguese-

[47] A/75/345-S/2020/898.

speaking Countries to promote the Portuguese language in international and regional organizations, including the United Nations and its specialized agencies, funds and programmes,

Welcoming the proclamation by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 5 May of each year as World Portuguese Language Day,

Welcoming also the engagement of all of the members of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries to strengthen the International Portuguese Language Institute, in Cabo Verde, as a legitimate forum for the submission of demands and proposals regarding the multilateral management of the Portuguese language,

Noting with great concern the threat to 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 sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[48] and to help to reduce the risk of future shocks, and recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation,

Highlighting the commitment demonstrated by the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries in addressing the issue of food security and nutrition, namely, through the work of the Food and Nutrition Security Council of the Community, a multisectoral, multi-actor, multilevel and inclusive governance platform, and the implementation of the food and nutrition security strategy of the Community,

Taking note with appreciation of the commitment of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries to the promotion and protection of human rights within the Community,

Taking note with appreciation also of the commitment of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

Recalling with appreciation the convening of the fourth International Conference on the Future of the Portuguese Language in the World System, held by videoconference from 26 to 28 May 2021 on the topic of the horizons and perspectives of the Portuguese language, and acknowledging the importance of the consideration by the Community of the Praia Action Plan, which, together with the Dili Action Plan, the Lisbon Action Plan and the Brasilia Action Plan, will update the global strategy for the promotion and diffusion of the Portuguese language,

Welcoming the continuous coordination among Heads of State and Government, ministers and high-level officials of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries on the margins of high-level meetings of the United Nations and their reaffirmation of the commitment of the Community to the values and principles of the Charter,

Expressing appreciation for the work consistently carried out by the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries in the achievement of its three broad objectives of diplomatic and political coordination, cooperation in all areas and promotion of the Portuguese language, and especially of its efforts towards post-pandemic economic recovery, and recalling the adoption of its New Strategic Vision (2016–2026) by the eleventh Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, held in Brasilia on 31 October and 1 November 2016,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the final declaration of the thirteenth Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, held in Luanda on 17 July 2021, on the theme "Building and strengthening a common and sustainable future", in which the Community has committed to continue to promote political dialogue, exchange experience and cooperate in order to enhance the commitment and partnership for the promotion and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the States members of the Community, taking into account enhanced and shared solidarity focused on the needs of the most vulnerable;

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the twenty-sixth anniversary of the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries;

3. *Notes* the adoption at the thirteenth Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries of the mobility agreement, the declaration on the Portuguese language in the

[48] Resolution 70/1.

Community, the declaration on culture and creative industries as a strategic sector in the Community, the declaration on the seas and oceans, the resolution on the Dili Action Plan and the resolution on the sustainability of the Food and Nutrition Security Council of the Community;

4. *Acknowledges* the impact of extreme weather events and the importance of humanitarian assistance provided to countries of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, and stresses the need to favour an articulated development-based and multidisciplinary approach in response to these phenomena in order to strengthen national capacities and address these adverse consequences in a swift and effective manner;

5. *Also acknowledges* the International Centre for Climate Research and Applications for the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and Africa, as a research centre of the Community, notes that the Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, at their thirteenth Conference, called for concerted and mobilizing action to affirm the ambitious climate and environmental policies at the global level, and notes in this regard the strong participation of the Community at the United Nations Ocean Conference, held in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July 2022, where they underlined the connection between sustainable and healthy oceans and climate action;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* global initiatives to promote global solidarity in response to the pandemic, and also notes with satisfaction efforts towards ensuring that all States have affordable, timely, equitable and universal access to COVID-19 vaccines, including efforts by the Secretary-General and by the Executive Secretary of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries;

7. *Recalls* the importance of the engagement of civil society in the activities of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, taking into account the national legislation of each State member of the Community, and acknowledges that it can play an important role in advancing efforts in support of the implementation of all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda within the Community;

8. *Also recalls* the importance of the participation of the private sector in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals within the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries through public-private partnerships, taking into account the national legislation of each member State, and acknowledges the adoption of the resolution on the creation of the Community's new general objective of economic cooperation and the commitment of the Community to progressively consolidating a multilateral agenda for economic cooperation with a view to contributing to the economic and social development of its member States;

9. *Acknowledges* the commitment of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries to preserving and creating decent jobs, as well as income and productive capacity, by increasing multilateral action in capacity-building and through the sharing of experiences, networking initiatives and the development of partnerships in trade and investment promotion;

10. *Welcomes* the decision to expand the Plan of Action of the Strategic Programme for Cooperation in Health with activities that contribute specifically to the post-COVID-19 mitigation and recovery process, and also welcomes the scientific and technical work carried out by the health networks of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, namely the Network of National Institutes of Public Health and the Network of Public Health Schools, as well as the Community's Human Milk Bank Network;

11. *Notes* the admission of Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Greece, India, Ireland, Peru, Qatar, Romania, Spain, the United States of America, the Ibero-American Conference, the Group of Seven Plus and the European Public Law Organization as new associate observers during the thirteenth Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries;

12. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the cooperation between the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and United Nations specialized agencies and other entities and programmes, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Health Organization, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);

13. *Also stresses* the importance of partnership and cooperation between the United Nations and other relevant organizations, including the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, to improve coordination and cooperation in peacebuilding and sustaining peace, in accordance with their respective mandates, to increase synergies and ensure the coherence and complementarity of such efforts;

14. *Recalls* its resolution 73/339, and acknowledges the important role played by the Peacebuilding Commission and its various configurations;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries".

RESOLUTION 77/15

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.15, sponsored by: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kiribati, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

77/15. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/85 of 9 December 2003, 67/109 of 17 December 2012, 69/271 of 2 April 2015, 71/15 of 21 November 2016, 73/14 of 26 November 2018 and 75/8 of 23 November 2020 and its decision 71/556 of 8 September 2017,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of a political, economic, social, cultural or humanitarian nature,

Referring to Security Council resolution 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, in which the Council recalled its invitation to regional organizations to improve coordination with the United Nations and the Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security, adopted by the General Assembly on 9 December 1994,[49]

Acknowledging the efforts of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM to advance partnership relations with the United Nations and its Member States, based on the principles of sovereign equality, mutual respect and mutually beneficial cooperation, as well as on the commitment to democratic values, the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced that advancing cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM will further contribute to the promotion of the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[50]

1. *Takes note* of the activity of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM aimed at promoting regional cooperation in various areas such as trade and economic development, energy, transportation, agriculture, disaster management, culture, science, education, public health, youth, tourism and sport, as well as countering terrorism, drug trafficking, organized crime, human trafficking, illegal migration and other types of criminal activity of a transnational nature, which contributes to the attainment of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and to that end welcomes the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 19 November 2018, and the cooperation between the Organization for

[49] Resolution 49/57, annex.

[50] See A/77/277-S/2022/606, sect. II.

Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM with the Economic Commission for Europe, as well as the desire of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM to cooperate with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening dialogue, cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, and to that end invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to engage in regular consultations with the Secretary-General of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, utilizing for that purpose the appropriate inter-institutional forums and formats, including the annual consultations between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies, components, organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system to cooperate and develop direct contacts with the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM for the joint implementation of projects aimed at the attainment of common objectives, and in that context takes note of the existing practice of cooperation between the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM".

RESOLUTION 77/16

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.16, sponsored by: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

77/16. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States

The General Assembly,

Referring to the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage measures for regional cooperation to advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Referring also to its resolution 48/237 of 24 March 1994, by which it granted the Commonwealth of Independent States observer status in the General Assembly,

Welcoming the efforts of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States to attain objectives consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming that achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character is one of the purposes of the United Nations,

Referring to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolution 1631 (2005) of 17 October 2005, as well as statements by the President of the Council, including the statement of 13 January 2010,[51] in which the Council emphasized the importance of developing effective partnerships between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with the Charter,

Welcoming the commitment of the Commonwealth of Independent States to intensify and deepen its cooperation with the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States will advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Notes* the activities of the Commonwealth of Independent States to strengthen regional cooperation in such areas as trade and economic development; exchange of statistical data and economic information; culture;

[51] S/PRST/2010/1; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2009–31 July 2010* (S/INF/65).

education; health care; sports; tourism; science and innovation; environmental protection and response to natural and human-made disasters; combating organized crime, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, terrorist acts, manifestations of extremism and illegal migration; and other related areas;

2. *Also notes* the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the United Nations system and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and invites the Secretary-General to hold for that purpose regular consultations with the Chair of the Executive Committee and Executive Secretary of the Commonwealth, making use of appropriate inter-agency forums and formats, including consultations between the Secretary-General and the heads of regional organizations;

3. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system, as well as international financial institutions, to develop their cooperation with the Commonwealth of Independent States;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States".

RESOLUTION 77/17

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.17, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, State of Palestine

77/17. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Recalling also article 3 of the Charter of the League of Arab States,[52] which entrusts the Council of the League of Arab States with the function of identifying the means whereby it will collaborate with international organizations to maintain international peace and security and to promote, organize and strengthen relations in all fields,

Taking into consideration the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[53] in particular section VII concerning cooperation with regional organizations, and the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace",[54]

Recognizing the need for further strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States for the realization of the common goals and objectives of the two organizations,

Recalling the statements by the President of the Security Council of 13 June 2019,[55] 29 January 2021[56] and 23 March 2022[57] that, inter alia, focused on developing cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States, welcomed the opening of the United Nations Liaison Office to the League of Arab States in Cairo and commended the work of the Liaison Office to strengthen institutional relations and cooperation to enhance strategic and operational partnership between the two organizations,

Taking into consideration the provisions of the protocol of amendment of the text of the cooperation agreement between the United Nations and the League of Arab States signed in September 2016, which call for strengthening

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[52] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 70, No. 241.

[53] A/47/277-S/24111.

[54] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

[55] S/PRST/2019/5.

[56] S/PRST/2021/2.

[57] S/PRST/2022/1.

cooperation between the two organizations in new areas, including conflict resolution and prevention, in addition to peacebuilding and sustaining peace,

Welcoming the outcome of the fifteenth general cooperation meeting between the United Nations and the League of Arab States, which was convened at the United Nations Office at Geneva on 13 and 14 July 2022, during which cooperation in various fields was discussed, including in political, security, economic and social areas and other relevant issues,

1. *Requests* the secretariats of the United Nations and the League of Arab States to follow up on the implementation of the recommendations and resolutions of the fifteenth general cooperation meeting to assist the Arab States in confronting existing and emerging challenges, including overcoming the economic, social and other repercussions resulting from the outbreak of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic in the region;

2. *Calls upon* both secretariats to exert further efforts to enhance existing cooperation in all areas of common interest, and requests the Secretariat of the United Nations to promote and build the capacities of the staff members of organs of the League of Arab States dealing with peacekeeping, peacemaking and peacebuilding, as well as sustaining peace and building national capacities in the post-conflict phase, and to strengthen further cooperation between the two sides in this regard through their accredited representations;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the two secretariats continuing periodic consultations, at all levels, including United Nations envoys and special representatives of the Secretary-General, on the topics of the agenda of the Council of the League of Arab States, to reach effective common solutions to the crises in the Arab region, through the exchange of information and the strengthening of coordination, consultation and follow-up mechanisms;

4. *Looks forward* to both secretariats convening the fifteenth sectoral meeting between the two organizations and their specialized agencies on "Cooperation in climate change" in Cairo at the beginning of 2023, and the sixteenth general cooperation meeting between the two systems in 2024 at the United Nations Office at Geneva;

5. *Requests* the United Nations specialized agencies, programmes and institutions to continue their interaction with their counterparts in the organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States and to improve their consultation mechanisms for the implementation of the projects and programmes agreed upon between both sides, taking into consideration their expertise in various fields;

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations specialized agencies, institutions and programmes to inform the Secretary-General, no later than January 2024, of the progress achieved in their cooperation with the League of Arab States, particularly in implementing the multilateral decisions and programmes approved by the fifteenth general cooperation meeting between the two organizations;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session.

RESOLUTION 77/18

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.18, sponsored by Angola, and Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation)

77/18. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/4 of 22 October 1982, 38/4 of 28 October 1983, 39/7 of 8 November 1984, 40/4 of 25 October 1985, 41/3 of 16 October 1986, 42/4 of 15 October 1987, 43/2 of 17 October 1988, 44/8 of 18 October 1989, 45/9 of 25 October 1990, 46/13 of 28 October 1991, 47/18 of 23 November 1992, 48/24 of 24 November 1993, 49/15 of 15 November 1994, 50/17 of 20 November 1995, 51/18 of 14 November 1996, 52/4 of 22 October 1997, 53/16 of 29 October 1998, 54/7 of 25 October 1999, 55/9 of 30 October 2000, 56/47 of 7 December 2001, 57/42 of 21 November 2002, 59/8 of 22 October 2004, 61/49 of 4 December 2006, 63/114 of 5 December 2008, 65/140 of 16 December 2010, 67/264 of 17 May 2013, 69/317 of 10 September 2015, 72/74 of 6 December 2017, 73/135 of 13 December 2018 and 75/16 of 23 November 2020,

Recalling also its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, by which it decided to invite the Organization of the Islamic Conference[58] to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and of its subsidiary organs in the capacity of observer,

Welcoming the efforts of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, which have been undertaken in coordination with the United Nations and in full respect of the Charter of the United Nations, in strengthening its role in conflict prevention, confidence-building, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and post-conflict rehabilitation, mediation and preventive diplomacy, including conflict situations involving Muslim communities,

Noting the adoption by the Islamic Summit Conference at its thirteenth session, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 14 and 15 April 2016, of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation 2025 Programme of Action and the adoption on 14 March 2008 by the Islamic Summit Conference at its eleventh session, held in Dakar on 13 and 14 March 2008, of the amended Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its registration with the United Nations Secretariat,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[59]

Taking into account the desire of the two organizations to continue to cooperate closely in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and scientific fields and in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, the promotion of a culture of peace through dialogue and cooperation, decolonization, fundamental human rights, economic and social development, and combating international terrorism,

Recalling the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, and in this regard taking note of the holding, on 17 November 2016, of the Security Council briefing on the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,[60] as well as the high-level meeting of the Council of 28 October 2013 on strengthening the partnership synergy between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the statement by the President of the Council adopted as an outcome of the meeting,[61] through which the Council, inter alia, recognized and further encouraged the active contribution of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the Secretary-General, in his report, recognized the strengthening of practical cooperation and the building of complementarity between the United Nations, its specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, its subsidiary organs and its specialized and affiliated institutions,

Noting also the encouraging progress made in the 10 priority areas of cooperation between the two organizations and their respective agencies and institutions, as well as in the identification of other areas of cooperation between them,

Noting further that the Secretaries-General of the two organizations have met regularly and that consultations among senior officials of the two organizations have enhanced cooperation,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking note of the results of the general meeting of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, held in Geneva from 18 to 20 July 2022, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 75/16, to review and appraise the level of cooperation in the fields of international peace and security, science and technology, trade and development,

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[58] On 28 June 2011, the Organization of the Islamic Conference changed its name to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

[59] A/77/277-S/2022/606.

[60] See S/PV.7813.

[61] S/PRST/2013/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,[62] protection of and assistance to refugees, human rights, human resource development, food security and agriculture, environment, health and population, arts and crafts, and the promotion of heritage, and of the fact that these meetings are now being held every two years, with the next meeting scheduled for 2024, to be hosted by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,

Acknowledging the intention expressed by the representatives of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to reinforce cooperation and understanding in areas of common interest, noting the commitment of both organizations to fostering a global dialogue for the promotion of tolerance and peace, calling for enhanced cooperation to promote better understanding across countries, religions, cultures and civilizations, and in this regard using, inter alia, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations as a useful tool in advancing that agenda in international forums, and welcoming the promotion of the effective implementation of Human Rights Council resolution 16/18 of 24 March 2011[63] and all subsequent versions adopted by the Council to counter global violence, religious discrimination and intolerance, including through the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief,

Taking into account the strengthened spirit of cooperation reflected in the agreement on a matrix of activities within the framework of United Nations-Organization of Islamic Cooperation collaboration, to be implemented over the next biennium,

Recalling that the Organization of Islamic Cooperation remains an important partner of the United Nations in peace, security and the fostering of a culture of peace at the global level, and noting various decisions reached by the two sides, including the agreement to continue cooperation in conflict prevention and resolution, mediation, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, promotion of good governance at the national and international levels, combating international terrorism, preventing violent extremism, countering religious intolerance, including Islamophobia, promoting and protecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, humanitarian assistance and capacity-building in electoral assistance, and the agreement to improve the follow-up mechanism,

Noting the growing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on mediation,

Noting also the commitment of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to building its capacity in the field of conflict prevention and resolution, mediation and preventive diplomacy through conferences, training sessions and workshops delivered by experts and organizations specializing in that field and the organization of a workshop entitled "Training Workshop on Election Observation" for observers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, held from 24 to 26 July 2022 at the General Secretariat of the Organization,

Noting further the adoption by the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, at its forty-fifth and forty-sixth, forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions, of resolutions on strengthening the mediation capacity of the Organization, and the holding of the first, second, third and fourth Conferences of Organization of Islamic Cooperation Member States on Mediation on 21 November 2017, 29 November 2018, 1 November 2019 and 5 and 6 June 2022,

Noting the contribution of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in promoting intercultural dialogue and understanding within the framework of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and other initiatives in this regard,

Welcoming the initiatives for interfaith dialogue undertaken by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations, as well as their member States, including the activities of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna, and emphasizing the importance of engaging relevant United Nations agencies in promoting interfaith dialogue and other related activities, as well as General Assembly resolutions 68/127 of 18 December 2013, 70/109 of 10 December 2015 and 72/241 of 20 December 2017 on a world against violence and violent extremism,

Taking note of the cooperation between the Independent Permanent Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and relevant United Nations bodies, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and recognizing the need for further enhancing this cooperation,

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[62] See resolution 70/1.

[63] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. II, sect. A.

Noting the adoption by the sixth Ministerial Conference on the Role of Women in the Development of Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, held in Istanbul from 1 to 3 November 2016, of its revised Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women and its implementation mechanism, and the establishment of the Advisory Women Council, as well as activities of the Department of Family Affairs of the General Secretariat of the Organization to deal specifically with issues concerning women, children, young people and older persons, and underscoring the cooperation between the Department and relevant United Nations agencies, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women),

Welcoming the decision of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, at its forty-fifth session, to establish the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Women's Achievement Award so as to encourage and promote the advancement and empowerment of women,

Noting with appreciation the close and multifaceted cooperation between the specialized agencies of the United Nations and the specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation with a view to strengthening the capacities of the two organizations to address challenges to development and social progress, including ongoing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the World Health Organization, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund on health issues, as well as discussions between the United Nations Children's Fund and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on formalizing their partnership through specific initiatives linked to the Sustainable Development Goals, as part of the relevant sections of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation 2025 Programme of Action,

Welcoming the existing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, including dialogue between the two entities on reaching out to non-governmental organizations and other humanitarian actors in States members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as participation in joint activities and events and information-sharing, with a view to furthering proactive engagement and implementing concrete programmes in the areas of capacity-building, emergency assistance and strategic partnerships,

Welcoming also the ongoing cooperation between the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations, in particular the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Office of Counter-Terrorism, on preventing, countering and combating terrorism and violent extremism,

Noting the outcome of the review undertaken by the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation on the political and security situation in the Middle East during the fifteenth session of the general meeting on cooperation between the two organizations, held in Geneva from 18 to 20 July 2022,

Noting also the request of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation for greater interaction between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Organization extending beyond the current biennial arrangement so as to include periodic reviews of cooperation, in the light of the expanding areas of cooperation between the two organizations,

Noting with appreciation the determination of the two organizations to further strengthen the existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the designated priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the political field,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Urges* the United Nations system to cooperate with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in areas of mutual interest, as appropriate;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Affirms* that the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation share a common goal of promoting and facilitating the Middle East peace process so that the process can reach its objective of establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East and also share a common objective of fostering peaceful and political solutions to other conflicts in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council;

5. *Requests* the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to continue to cooperate in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, promotion of a culture of peace through dialogue and cooperation, decolonization, human rights and fundamental freedoms, countering international terrorism, including violent extremism, addressing conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, capacity-building, health-related issues such as combating pandemic and endemic diseases, protection of the environment, climate change, food security, emergency relief and rehabilitation and technical cooperation;

6. *Welcomes* the strong commitment of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the fight against violent extremism and terrorist groups such as Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, Al-Nusrah Front and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida, affirms the important role of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in responding, in coordination with the United Nations, to the threat posed by violent extremism, in particular with regard to countering violent extremism and developing counter-narratives, and takes note of the cooperation between relevant United Nations institutions and Sawt Al-Hikma (the Voice of Wisdom) and the Centre for Dialogue, Peace and Understanding within the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to delegitimize and deconstruct the extremist narratives and dismantle their contexts, especially through social media;

7. *Recalls* the adoption of the General Assembly resolution 76/254, sponsored by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, by which the Assembly proclaimed 15 March as the International Day to Combat Islamophobia and invited all Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, and civil society, private sector and faith-based organizations to observe the International Day in an appropriate manner;

8. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation towards combating intolerance and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief, recognizes the strong need for global awareness about religious intolerance, condemns any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and welcomes cooperation towards addressing the issue with all urgency, including through the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief;

9. *Invites* increased cooperation and exchanges between the Independent Permanent Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

10. *Requests* the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen cooperation in addressing the social and economic issues that affect the efforts of Member States to eradicate poverty, achieve sustainable development and realize the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to continue to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in areas of common concern and to review and explore innovative ways and means of enhancing the mechanisms of such cooperation;

12. *Affirms* that, to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of the review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between representatives of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation should continue to be held once every two years and to include joint inter-agency sectoral or thematic meetings;

13. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the field of counter-terrorism, and notes the signing of a memorandum of understanding on 25 September 2018;

14. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment, in particular the signing of a memorandum of understanding on 22 September 2017;

15. *Further welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, in particular the signing of a memorandum of cooperation on 24 January 2016, which provides, inter alia, for the elaboration of a strategic plan for joint programmes, activities and projects;

16. *Encourages* the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and their subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees to intensify actions in creating bilateral frameworks for cooperation in the area of human and industrial capacity development, trade promotion, transportation and tourism;

17. *Invites* the United Nations system to cooperate with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, including the Islamic Development Bank, and its member States in their efforts to implement the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

18. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continuing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the fields of peacemaking, preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, and notes the close cooperation between the two organizations in reconstruction and development in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Central African Republic, Mali, Sierra Leone and Somalia;

19. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen information exchange, coordination and cooperation between them in areas of mutual interest in the political field and to develop practical modalities for such cooperation;

20. *Notes with satisfaction* the increasing cooperation between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and calls upon the two organizations to expand their cooperation in the protection of cultural and historic heritage;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, cultural, humanitarian and scientific fields;

22. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to reinforcing cooperation in areas of common interest between the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the United Nations, also welcomes the periodic high-level meetings between the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, as well as between senior secretariat officials of the two organizations, and encourages their participation in important meetings of the two organizations;

23. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with the subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, particularly in the fields of science and technology, higher education, health and environment, by negotiating cooperation agreements and through necessary contacts and meetings of the respective focal points for cooperation in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

24. *Invites* the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to consider providing increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and its subsidiary organs, specialized and affiliated institutions and standing committees in order to strengthen their capacities for cooperation;

25. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to increase awareness, as appropriate, of the work and activities of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, in accordance with established practice between the United Nations and other regional organizations;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation".

RESOLUTION 77/19

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, by a recorded vote of 102 to 5, with 28 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.19, sponsored by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein,

Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United States of America

* *In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen

Against: Belarus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cuba, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Honduras, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Uzbekistan

77/19. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 66/111 of 9 December 2011, by which it granted observer status to the Central European Initiative,

Recalling also its resolutions 67/7 of 19 November 2012, 69/8 of 11 November 2014, 71/13 of 21 November 2016, 73/10 of 26 November 2018 and 75/7 of 23 November 2020, in which it invited the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Central European Initiative in order to continue joint activities for the achievement of common objectives,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation to promote the goals and objectives of the United Nations,

Appreciating the active involvement of the Central European Initiative in establishing cooperation with the United Nations system and relevant international and regional organizations, aimed at the furthering of political and socioeconomic development by covering all its relevant dimensions,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Central European Initiative, at the intergovernmental, parliamentary, economic and local levels, to strengthening multilateralism, promoting solidarity and building a united, cohesive, secure and stable Europe without dividing lines and with shared values, as well as to advancing the political project of the Initiative for European integration and cooperation for the sustainable development of all its member States,

Noting the efforts of the Central European Initiative in addressing the current challenges related to climate and the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as those triggered by the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, a member State of the Initiative, causing human tragedy and posing unprecedented risks to the world's economies, including for energy and food security,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 75/7,[64]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the joint statement adopted by the Summit of the Heads of Government of the States members of the Central European Initiative in Budva, Montenegro, on 3 December 2021 under the Presidency of Montenegro, underlining that the sustainable development of all States members of the Initiative can be achieved only through joint commitments, regional partnerships under global multi-stakeholder partnerships, shared responsibilities and collective efforts for making tangible contributions to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[65] and its Sustainable Development Goals;

2. *Notes* the activities of the Central European Initiative in mitigating the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic for its member States, and welcomes the Initiative's response capacity for effectively tackling health-related challenges, including through consolidated cooperation with the Regional Office for Europe of the World Health

[64] A/77/277-S/2022/606.

[65] Resolution 70/1.

Organization, and in particular the joint endorsement of the World Health Organization road map for health and well-being in the Western Balkans (2021–2025) at the Summit of the Heads of Government of the States members of the Central European Initiative under the Presidency of Montenegro in 2021;

3. *Also notes* the contribution of the Central European Initiative to alleviate the serious consequences, caused by the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, through increased political support and concrete assistance to Ukraine and its people;

4. *Further notes* the activities of the Central European Initiative in addressing the growing challenges related to climate and the environment and takes note, in this regard, of the joint statement by the Ministers of Environment under the Presidency of Montenegro in 2021 on cooperation in the field of sustainable waste management in the Central European Initiative region, the efforts made to strengthen collaborative research in the field of solid earth science, as well as the projects and activities to support a smooth transition towards a sustainable circular bioeconomy;

5. *Notes* the activities of the Central European Initiative under the Presidency of Bulgaria, aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in the areas of economic and social recovery from the pandemic; enhanced connectivity with a focus on transport; young people and their perspectives, including with regard to employability; development of entrepreneurship and skills for the green and digital transitions; and promoting the local dimension of the Initiative;

6. *Acknowledges* the Plan of Action 2021–2023 adopted by the Central European Initiative, noting that it was elaborated in line with the 2030 Agenda, as well as the efforts made so far in support of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals and the continuous commitment of the Initiative in keeping up with the pace towards achieving the 2030 Agenda;

7. *Encourages* further stocktaking activities related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by the States members of the Central European Initiative, such as the conference organized by the Executive Secretariat of the Central European Initiative in 2021 on "Sustainable Development Goals decade of action – exchange of experiences, best practices and current challenges in Sustainable Development Goal implementation, role of regional cooperation and partnerships", as well as to the exchange of experience and best practices for mutual learning and tackling challenges, including in the framework of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

8. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Central European Initiative in engaging young people in the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals through a dedicated programme entitled "'IMAGINE': active young citizens for sustainable development in Central European Initiative and Adriatic and Ionian Initiative areas", and encourages further initiatives with a focus on young people;

9. *Notes* the commitment of the Central European Initiative in the cultural and media fields, especially fostering intercultural dialogue and media freedom, and also notes the commitment to science diplomacy;

10. *Also notes* the continuous efforts of the Central European Initiative to promote effective multilateralism, recalling that transnational threats can be successfully addressed only through cooperation and joint actions, and recognizing the need for strong and innovative leadership to manage crises;

11. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the role assumed by the Central European Initiative as a promoter of a project-oriented perspective aimed at enhancing the economic growth and the stability of its member States, in addition to the political dialogue;

12. *Appreciates* the efforts of the Central European Initiative to develop and implement joint regional and transregional projects, in cooperation with other important international players, and to foster broad multi-stakeholder partnerships in the region;

13. *Acknowledges*, in this context, the fruitful cooperation between the Central European Initiative and the European Union, as one of the main co-funders of such projects, as well as the positive results of these projects, and supports the efforts of the Initiative to take concrete steps to establish additional mutually beneficial partnerships with the European Union;

14. *Welcomes* the Central European Initiative's relations with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development through the Central European Initiative trust fund at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, entirely financed by Italy, which provides mainly grant-type assistance for specific components of technical cooperation projects, linked to large operations of the Bank in States members of the Initiative that are not

members of the European Union, and of projects related to capacity-building and the sharing of good practices between States members of the Initiative that are members of the European Union and those that are not, through the Initiative's know-how exchange programme;

15. *Also welcomes* the financing of small-scale multilateral projects in the priority fields by the Central European Initiative Cooperation Fund, to which all member States contribute, and notes that the activities supported by the Cooperation Fund and their practical outcomes also contribute to sharing experiences and good practices on European integration, including on policies and measures to support sustainable development, and further welcomes the efforts to strengthen this instrument by reinvigorating the Cooperation Fund;

16. *Notes* the ongoing contributions of the Central European Initiative bodies, in the framework of the Initiative's parliamentary, economic and local dimensions, to the strengthening of multi-stakeholder cooperation in the region;

17. *Also notes* the efforts of the Central European Initiative to include stakeholders, such as academia and civil society, in the implementation of its activities, thus strengthening multilevel partnerships;

18. *Further notes* the efforts undertaken by the Central European Initiative in intensifying cooperation with other international and regional organizations and initiatives, thus remaining committed to fostering broad multi-stakeholder partnerships in the region;

19. *Appreciates* the intention of the Central European Initiative to intensify cooperation with the United Nations Secretariat and the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, with the aim of achieving mutual participation in events and meetings of common interest and developing practical and results-oriented joint projects and actions, and especially welcomes, in this context, the cooperation established between the Initiative and the Regional Office for Europe of the World Health Organization;

20. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to establish cooperation with the Central European Initiative through common action aimed at achieving the shared goals;

21. *Invites* the Secretary-General to intensify exchanges with the Central European Initiative in order to continue the fruitful cooperation and to facilitate coordination between the secretariats;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative".

RESOLUTION 77/20

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.20, sponsored by: Algeria, Andorra, Australia, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, France, Georgia, Guinea, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Viet Nam

77/20. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/1 of 15 October 1996, in which it invited the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to participate as an observer in its sessions and work, and its resolutions 71/19 of 21 November 2016, 73/11 of 26 November 2018 and 75/10 of 23 November 2020 concerning the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL, and calling for the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL,

Recalling also the cooperation agreement of 1997 between the United Nations and INTERPOL[66] and all other relevant cooperation agreements between them,

Recalling further all relevant United Nations resolutions recognizing that cooperation between the United Nations and international organizations such as INTERPOL can contribute to preventing and combating transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, and preventing and countering terrorism,

Acknowledging the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in assisting the States Members of the United Nations that are also member countries of INTERPOL in preventing and responding to crime and in improving their law enforcement capabilities, upon their request,

Recognizing that INTERPOL, in accordance with the Constitution of INTERPOL, is an apolitical[67] and neutral international organization entrusted with the mandate of ensuring and promoting mutual assistance among criminal police authorities, in full respect of the sovereignty of Member States and consistent with their obligations under international law and the domestic laws and regulations of each Member State, and in accordance with the rules and regulations of INTERPOL,

Acknowledging that INTERPOL has been a key actor since 1923 in enabling and promoting international police cooperation in order to prevent and combat transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, through enhanced police cooperation among its member countries as well as in fostering innovation in police and law enforcement matters, and in this regard takes further note of the three global crime programmes of INTERPOL dedicated to counter-terrorism, cybercrime and organized and emerging crime,

Acknowledging also the contributions derived from the global structure of the General Secretariat of INTERPOL, consisting of its seat in Lyon, France, its Global Complex for Innovation located in Singapore, its regional bureaux around the world and its Offices of the Special Representative at the United Nations, the European Union and the African Union,

Welcoming the role of the national central bureaux of INTERPOL, present in every member country, as the cornerstone of cooperation to enhance cohesion, stability and security and as the primary international policing hub, which links national police forces through its global network,

Welcoming also the cooperation between the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities and INTERPOL in preventing and countering terrorism by assisting Member States, upon their request, in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,[68] including through information-sharing on foreign terrorist fighters, including those returning or relocating, in particular from terrorist combat or training areas, and on improvements in border security,[69] with a view to maximizing synergies, promoting transparency and greater efficiencies and avoiding duplication of their work,

Welcoming further the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken in accordance with the arrangement on cooperation of 21 July 2017 between the United Nations and INTERPOL, in relation to the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, supplementary to the cooperation agreement of 1997 between the United Nations and INTERPOL,

Welcoming the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken between the Office of Counter-Terrorism and INTERPOL, taking note with appreciation of the participation of INTERPOL in the implementation of joint projects, in accordance with the arrangement on cooperation of 27 June 2018 between the United Nations and INTERPOL, in relation to the activities of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, supplementary to the cooperation agreement of 1997 between the United Nations and INTERPOL, and in this regard taking note of the cooperation and coordination efforts between INTERPOL and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, including the programmes of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre on border security and management and on countering and preventing the travel of foreign terrorist fighters,

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[66] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1996, No. 1200.

[67] Constitution of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), article 3.

[68] Resolution 60/288.

[69] See resolution 72/284.

Noting the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken in accordance with existing arrangements between the Department of Peace Operations of the Secretariat and INTERPOL, and recalling the joint effort of INTERPOL and the Department of Peace Operations pertaining to interim law enforcement, security support and support for the development of national police and other law enforcement agencies in mission settings, in accordance with respective and specific mandates,

Welcoming the cooperation between the United Nations police and INTERPOL, in particular the specialized police teams and serious and organized crime teams of the United Nations Police Division in the development of joint programmes and initiatives, within their respective mandates, including through the provision of technical expertise and assistance to national police and law enforcement institutions, with a view to maximizing synergies, promoting transparency and greater efficiencies and avoiding duplication of their work,

Noting the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken in accordance with the cooperation agreement of 5 October 1999 between the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and INTERPOL, and its special arrangement of 8 July 2003 in accordance with article 4 (4) of the said cooperation agreement,

Welcoming the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken in accordance with the memorandum of understanding on cooperation of 22 May 2000 between the International Civil Aviation Organization and INTERPOL,

Recognizing the contribution of the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[70] through joint activities, capacity-building and targeted support of Member States in the fight against all forms of transnational crime and terrorism, and taking note of the contribution of the INTERPOL Global Policing Goals to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by Member States,

Acknowledging the need to strengthen the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in mainstreaming a gender perspective throughout all relevant areas of cooperation, including in training, workshops, capacity-building and leadership training programmes, in order to strengthen their effectiveness,

Recalling the political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[71] in which, inter alia, the General Assembly reaffirmed the important contribution of INTERPOL to the global fight against trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Recognizing the contribution of the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, and acknowledging the contribution of INTERPOL to the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and the relevant role of INTERPOL in the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,[72]

Noting the cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in assisting Member States, upon their request, in addressing the illicit trafficking in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials by non-State actors,

Concerned at the growing trend of cybercrime and the criminal misuse of information and communications technologies in multiple forms of crime, recalling its resolutions 73/187 of 17 December 2018, 74/247 of 27 December 2019 and 75/282 of 26 May 2021, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 2019/19 and 2019/20 of 23 July 2019, and noting the need to enhance coordination and cooperation between the United Nations, in particular the Global Programme on Cybercrime of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, INTERPOL and Member States in combating cybercrime, including through technical assistance, particularly to developing countries, upon request, in order to enhance the capacity of national authorities to deal with cybercrime in all its forms, including its prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution,

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[70] Resolution 70/1.

[71] Resolution 72/1.

[72] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and A/60/88/Corr.2, annex.

Noting the continued efforts and progress made by INTERPOL to serve as a trusted global law enforcement hub for the exchange of actionable information and analysis, and the contribution of INTERPOL to the promotion and achievement of the highest level of professionalism and innovation in law enforcement, including through the provision and delivery of training and training resources and analytical products and the creation of networks of law enforcement expert groups and education institutions, including the INTERPOL Virtual Academy, aimed at increasing the efficiency of law enforcement agencies in combating transnational organized crime through international police cooperation,

Noting also international efforts that contribute to raising awareness of and preparedness for the use of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) for terrorist purposes as the technology has become more accessible, and in this regard taking particular note of the publication by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, Office of Counter-Terrorism and INTERPOL, *The Protection of Critical Infrastructure against Terrorist Attacks: Compendium of Good Practices*, and also noting the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) and its Berlin Memorandum on Good Practices for Countering Terrorist Use of UAS,

Acknowledging the unprecedented public health and socioeconomic damage and the continued impact of the public health crisis caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, requiring a coordinated international response, including a law enforcement response, to the vulnerabilities that drive, enable and perpetuate criminal activity,

Convinced that increased and enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Constitution of INTERPOL, as well as applicable international law, will contribute to achieving the respective purposes and principles of both organizations,

1. *Calls for* the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), within their respective mandates, in accordance with applicable international law, in (a) preventing and combating transnational crime, including illicit maritime activities, in particular transnational organized crime, including the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, drug trafficking, piracy, the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in small arms and light weapons and ammunitions, illicit trafficking in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials, the criminal misuse of information and communications technologies, including the Internet and social media, corruption and money-laundering, trafficking in illicit and counterfeit goods and crimes that affect the environment, including illicit trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild flora and fauna; and (b) preventing and countering terrorism, including through preventing and disrupting terrorist travel, countering the use of information and communications technologies, including the Internet and social media, for terrorist purposes, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, preventing and interdicting access to weapons necessary for terrorist activities, including small arms and light weapons and improvised explosive devices, as well as to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials, countering the financing of terrorism, including financing through the use of new and emerging technologies and methods, preventing and disrupting financial support for foreign terrorist fighters and preventing and combating the intentional and unlawful destruction and looting of cultural heritage and trafficking in cultural property perpetrated by criminal and terrorist groups;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of optimal coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in countering terrorism, with particular regard to the threat posed by the travel of foreign terrorist fighters, including those who return or relocate, and in strengthening international efforts to ensure that refugee status is not abused by the perpetrators, organizers and facilitators of terrorist acts, consistent with the obligations of Member States under international law, and in this context stresses the importance of information-sharing, as appropriate, including biometric data, which could encompass fingerprints and photographs, in order to increase the chances of the positive identification of terrorists and their affiliates, in addition to information from battlefields, counter-terrorism military operations and national prison systems, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also stresses the importance of Member States making full use of INTERPOL capabilities in this regard, notably the Stolen and Lost Travel Document Database, the Nominal Database, the Foreign Terrorist Fighter Criminal Analysis File, the Fingerprint Database, the DNA Profile Database and the facial recognition system, and of promoting international cooperation efforts to assist Member States, upon their request, in strengthening cooperation between their law enforcement agencies in order to bring suspected terrorists to justice;

3. *Recognizes* the potential for strengthening the cooperation between INTERPOL and the Department of Peace Operations of the Secretariat to provide timely capacity-building and technical assistance, including by

organizing training activities, to enhance the capacity of national police services and other law enforcement organizations, upon request, and in accordance with their respective mandates;

4. *Encourages* the United Nations and INTERPOL to deepen their cooperation to advance gender equality in law enforcement, including through the mainstreaming of a gender perspective, including in capacity-building programmes, as well as equal opportunities for employment, leadership positions and decision-making at all levels of law enforcement agencies, with a view to the empowerment of women and their full enjoyment of all human rights;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of optimal coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to create synergies within their respective mandates in the fight against transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime;

6. *Reaffirms* the importance of close cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL in the global fight against trafficking in persons, including through the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, as well as any sexual exploitation, including of women and children, and in this context stresses the importance of Member States making use of readily available INTERPOL capabilities, such as the International Child Sexual Exploitation Database, the Stolen and Lost Travel Document Database, the I-Familia database, the Travel Documents Associated with Notices system and the Nominal Database, as well as the INTERPOL Human Trafficking Expert Group, and also stresses the importance of Member States enhancing their capability to fight such crimes using the training curricula facilitated by INTERPOL;

7. *Also reaffirms* the importance of close cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to combat the smuggling of migrants, and in this context stresses the importance of Member States making use of readily available INTERPOL capabilities, including the Stolen and Lost Travel Document Database and the Nominal Database, as well as the INTERPOL Human Trafficking Expert Group;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of optimal cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to provide, upon request, complementary support to peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts in accordance with existing mandates, including in assisting Member States in strengthening the national central bureaux of INTERPOL through training and technical assistance in order to fight transnational organized crime more effectively, and supporting the reinforcement of national police and other law enforcement agencies, as demonstrated by joint Department of Peace Operations and INTERPOL projects at United Nations peacekeeping missions;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations to take full advantage of the benefits of cooperation with INTERPOL, in accordance with their respective mandates and consistent with the national priorities of Member States, to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and to implement the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects[73] and its International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, including through making use of the readily available INTERPOL capabilities to facilitate the tracing of weapons, notably the INTERPOL Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System, the INTERPOL Ballistic Information Network and the INTERPOL Firearms Reference Table;

10. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and INTERPOL in addressing the challenges faced by Member States in combating cybercrime and the criminal misuse of information and communications technologies, including through technical assistance and capacity-building activities made available by INTERPOL and relevant United Nations entities, upon request and based on national needs, taking into account specific challenges faced by developing countries;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and INTERPOL, as appropriate and within their existing mandates, to continue to strengthen cooperation and synergies in order to assist Member States in their efforts to prevent and counter the unlawful destruction and looting of cultural heritage and the trafficking in cultural property in all forms, including through the INTERPOL Stolen Works of Art Database and ID-Art mobile application;

12. *Welcomes* the steps that INTERPOL and the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, have taken to analyse and respond to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on crime, encourages

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[73] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*, *New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

relevant United Nations agencies to make use of resources and expertise provided by INTERPOL to enhance international law enforcement cooperation to address these effects, including the COVID-19 global threat assessment and recommended health protocols for police officers, and calls upon the two organizations to collaborate on and coordinate their analysis and responses, within their respective mandates, to make use of lessons learned to address future public health challenges and to build mechanisms to detect and disrupt the sale and supply of illicit and counterfeit pharmaceuticals and medical products;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of enhanced cooperation between the United Nations system, in particular the World Health Organization, and INTERPOL, including through capacity-building and training activities, with a view to strengthening collaboration between health and security sectors, and further seizes the opportunity to encourage Member States to make full use of the secure communication channels of INTERPOL, including BioTracker, to exchange information on biological incidents of natural, accidental or deliberate origin;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and INTERPOL, as appropriate and within their existing mandates, to enhance coordination and cooperation on matters related to maritime security, and to encourage law enforcement agencies to make full use of capabilities made available by INTERPOL and relevant United Nations entities, including the Global Maritime Security Database, as well as training, equipment and capacity-building, upon request and based on national needs, taking into account specific challenges faced by developing countries;

15. *Recognizes* the potential for strengthened collaboration between the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and INTERPOL, as appropriate and within their existing mandates, in order to assist Member States that are also member countries of INTERPOL in preventing and combating transnational financial crime and corruption, and in this regard also stresses the importance of the use of INTERPOL Notices and Diffusions to circulate details of new and existing crime trends related to financial crime, money-laundering and corruption, as well as the INTERPOL global stop-payment mechanism using the I-24/7 global police secure communications system, and accordingly calls on Member States to extend access to I-24/7 to financial intelligence units;

16. *Strongly condemns* the continued flow of unmanned aerial systems and their components to, by and between terrorist and organized criminal groups, expresses deep concern at the increasing global use of unmanned aerial systems by terrorists to launch attacks or to traffic drugs and arms, expresses its determination to address this growing threat, and stresses the importance of close cooperation between the United Nations, including the United Nations police, the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, and INTERPOL to support Member States, upon their request, to design comprehensive policies and guidance to assist law enforcement entities, to effectively prevent and respond to the acquisition and use of unmanned aerial systems and their components and other emerging technologies and methods, such as artificial intelligence and virtual assets, for criminal and terrorist purposes;

17. *Encourages* increased cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL to assist Member States, upon their request, in effectively using the following resources readily available to Member States that are also member countries of INTERPOL, through their national central bureaux:

(a) The INTERPOL I-24/7 global police secure communications system, which enables authorized users to share sensitive and urgent police information with their counterparts around the globe for the primary purpose of assisting in the prevention, detection and investigation of crime, in accordance with the INTERPOL mandate;

(b) INTERPOL databases, by populating, updating and querying them, as appropriate, with a view to sharing accurate information between Member States in a timely manner in accordance with INTERPOL rules and regulations, in full respect of national sovereignty and operational priorities, through full access to them;

(c) Publication of INTERPOL notices and diffusions to alert, request assistance from and provide assistance to law enforcement agencies of other Member States;

(d) Criminal information analysis, namely, INTERPOL analytical products, to support national operational activities and investigations by sharing information with INTERPOL for inclusion in the INTERPOL Criminal Analysis Files;

(e) INTERPOL support for the operations of the law enforcement agencies of Member States as well as training and capacity-building programmes and initiatives designed to improve national police capabilities;

18. *Acknowledges* the importance of extending real-time access to the I-24/7 global police secure communications system from the national central bureaux of Member States that are also member countries of INTERPOL to their other national law enforcement entities at strategic locations, such as border crossings, airports and customs and immigration posts, with a view to increasing the security of their borders by implementing INTERPOL technical solutions, inter alia, by integrating the most recent versions of the Fixed INTERPOL Network Database into border crossing points and systematically and automatically checking all incoming and outgoing travellers and conducting anticipated checks through advance passenger information and passenger name records mechanisms, thereby promoting increased cooperation between the United Nations and INTERPOL, including through the United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel Programme, in which INTERPOL is a partner;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)".

RESOLUTION 77/21

Adopted at the 39th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.21, sponsored by: Albania, Angola, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

77/21. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/6 of 15 October 1998, in which it invited the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to participate as an observer in its sessions and work, as well as its resolution 75/269 of 25 March 2021,

Recalling also the decision of the Economic and Social Council of 20 May 1971 to extend a standing invitation to the OECD to be represented by an observer at future sessions of that Council and to participate, with the approval of the Council and without the right to vote, in the Council's debates on questions of concern to the OECD,

Recalling further all relevant United Nations resolutions in which it is recognized that cooperation between the United Nations and international organizations such as the OECD can further contribute to addressing several challenges of an economic, social, or environmental character, among others,

Acknowledging the role of cooperation between the United Nations and the OECD in advancing the interests of Member States, within their respective mandates, in achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner,

Reaffirming its commitment to effective international cooperation and reinvigorated multilateralism in the global response to a fragile and highly uncertain global socioeconomic outlook, amid the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and its consequences, the adverse impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification, pollution and other environmental degradation aspects, rising geopolitical tensions and conflicts, and acknowledging the benefits that the cooperation between the United Nations and the OECD can bring in the sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from such crises,

Welcoming the commitment made by OECD ministers, in 2015, to promote the OECD contribution to the success of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[74] as well as the ensuing OECD Action Plan on the Sustainable Development Goals,

Welcoming also the renewed commitment by OECD ministers, on the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of the OECD, to contribute to the inclusive and sustainable development of the world economy and to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to continue to enhance engagement with other multilateral institutions, notably the United Nations,

Acknowledging the role of initiatives at the regional level in supporting sustainable development, and in this context taking note of the important contribution of all OECD regional programmes, as well as the recent agreement by OECD ministers to define a new partnership with Africa, working jointly with the African Union and other regional organizations, and the strategic priority accorded by the OECD to South East Asia, including the recent signature of a memorandum of understanding between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the OECD,

Acknowledging also that cooperation between the United Nations and the OECD can contribute to addressing the specific challenges of developing countries, including those in special situations, notably through initiatives such as the dialogue on development cooperation between small island developing States and the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD, and noting the ongoing discussions at the United Nations on the need to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement or go beyond gross domestic product in order to have a more inclusive approach to international cooperation,

Noting the cooperation and coordination efforts undertaken in accordance with existing arrangements between the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and the OECD secretariat and between United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and the OECD,

Convinced that increased and enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and the OECD in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the OECD will contribute to achieving the respective aims of both organizations,

1. *Welcomes* the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), within their respective mandates and in line with Member State priorities, to accelerate the pace of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and achieve its Sustainable Development Goals;

2. *Emphasizes* the importance of optimal coordination and cooperation between the United Nations and the OECD to create synergies within their respective mandates in the pursuit of inclusive and sustainable development;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations", the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)".

RESOLUTION 77/22

Adopted at the 42nd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2022, by a recorded vote of 101 to 17, with 53 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.23, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic

[74] Resolution 70/1.

Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechia, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Slovakia, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Armenia, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay

77/22. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its emergency special sessions and its resolution 75/20 of 2 December 2020,

Recalling also its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[75]

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Affirming its support for a comprehensive, just, lasting and peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session[76] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[77] endorsed by the Security Council in resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003,

Recalling the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016, and underscoring in this regard, inter alia, the call upon all parties to continue, in the interest of the promotion of peace and security, to exert collective efforts to launch credible negotiations on all final status issues in the Middle East peace process and within the time frame specified by the Quartet in its statement of 21 September 2010,

Recalling also the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[78] and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[79]

Recalling its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,[80]

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[75] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/77/35).

[76] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[77] S/2003/529, annex.

[78] See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

[79] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.

[80] A/67/738.

Taking note of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

Noting with deep regret the passage of 55 years since the onset of the Israeli occupation and 75 years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) on 29 November 1947 and the Nakba without tangible progress towards a peaceful solution, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the question of Palestine,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly aimed at achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, an expanded multilateral framework for the revitalization of peace efforts and ensuring fullest accountability and implementation of the long-standing parameters for peace in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the achievement without delay of an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders and the just resolution of all final status issues and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations and to continue to involve additional civil society organizations and parliamentarians in its work in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the Palestinian people and for restoring a political horizon and advancing just, lasting and comprehensive peace, particularly during this critical period of political instability, further reduction of civic space in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, humanitarian hardship and financial crisis, with the overall aim of promoting the achievement by the Palestinian people of their inalienable rights and a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet road map;

5. *Commends* the Committee on its efforts and activities in upholding its mandate, including through cooperative initiatives with Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations;

6. *Commends* the Working Group of the Committee on its efforts in coordinating the efforts of international and regional civil society organizations regarding the question of Palestine;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation that they have at their disposal;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation and support to the Committee in the performance of its tasks, recalling its repeated call for all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine, and to support the development and strengthening of Palestinian institutions and Palestinian State-building efforts in preparation for independence;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to report to the General Assembly on economic development in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the economic costs of the Israeli occupation for the Palestinian people, and, while drawing attention to the alarming

findings, as reflected in the recent reports[81] in this regard, calls for the exertion of all efforts for the provision of the resources necessary to expedite the completion and publication of the report, including the facilitation and coordination of pertinent inputs from the relevant organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all the competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

11. *Requests* the Committee, bearing in mind the regrettable absence of tangible progress towards a peaceful solution, to continue to focus its activities on efforts and initiatives to end the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and to organize activities in this regard, within existing resources and in cooperation with Governments, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society organizations, aimed at raising international awareness and mobilizing diplomatic efforts to launch credible negotiations aimed at achieving without delay a just, lasting, comprehensive and peaceful solution to the question of Palestine in all its aspects;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all the facilities necessary for the performance of its tasks.

RESOLUTION 77/23

Adopted at the 42nd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2022, by a recorded vote of 90 to 30, with 47 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.24, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Liberia, Lithuania, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Netherlands, Palau, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Eswatini, Finland, France, Georgia, Honduras, Iceland, India, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Togo, Uruguay

77/23. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[82]

Taking note, in particular, of the action taken by the Committee and the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat in accordance with their mandates,

Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all its subsequent relevant resolutions, including its resolution 75/21 of 2 December 2020,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 75/21;

[81] A/73/201, A/74/272, A/75/310, A/76/309 and A/77/295.

[82] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/77/35).

2. *Considers* that, by providing substantive support to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in the implementation of its mandate, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a constructive and positive contribution to raising international awareness of the question of Palestine and of the urgency of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine in all its aspects on the basis of international law and United Nations resolutions and the efforts being exerted in this regard and to generating international support for the rights of the Palestinian people and the achievement without delay of an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, with an independent, sovereign and viable State of Palestine, living side by side, in peace and security, with Israel;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to effectively carry out its programme of work as detailed in relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee and under its guidance;

4. *Requests* the Division, in particular, to continue to monitor developments relevant to the question of Palestine, to organize international meetings and activities in support of the Committee's mandate with the participation of all sectors of the international community and to ensure, within existing resources, the continued participation of eminent persons and international renowned experts in these meetings and activities, to be invited on a par with the members of the Committee, to liaise and cooperate with civil society and parliamentarians, including through the Working Group of the Committee, to develop and expand the "Question of Palestine" website and the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, to prepare and widely disseminate publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine in the relevant official languages of the United Nations and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine and to develop and enhance the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Government in contribution to Palestinian capacity-building efforts;

5. *Also requests* the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize, under the guidance of the Committee, an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity;

6. *Further requests* the Division to dedicate its activities in 2023 to the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Nakba, including by organizing a high-level event at the General Assembly Hall on 15 May 2023 and through the dissemination of relevant archives and testimonies;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation with the Division of the United Nations system entities with programme components addressing various aspects of the question of Palestine and the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Division in the performance of its tasks.

RESOLUTION 77/24

Adopted at the 42nd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2022, by a recorded vote of 149 to 11, with 13 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.25, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of

Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Czechia, Hungary, Israel, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Eritrea, Guatemala, Honduras, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, South Sudan, Togo, Uruguay

77/24. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 75/23 of 2 December 2020,

Recalling also its resolutions 76/84 A, entitled "Information in the service of humanity", and 76/84 B, entitled "United Nations global communications policies and activities", of 9 December 2021,

Taking note of the report of the Committee on Information on its forty-fourth session,[83]

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[84]

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and independence, and for the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, as well as the existing agreements between the two sides,

Affirming its support for a comprehensive, just, lasting and peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session,[85] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[86] endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and recalled by the Council in its resolution 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[87]

Taking note of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat in compliance with its resolution 75/23;

2. *Strongly condemns* the killing of Palestinian-American journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, stresses the need for accountability, and welcomes the decision of the United Nations to honour her bravery and legacy by renaming the training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists to "Shireen Abu Akleh Training Programme for Palestinian Broadcasters and Journalists";

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[83] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/77/21).

[84] Ibid., *Supplement No. 35* (A/77/35).

[85] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[86] S/2003/529, annex.

[87] See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

3. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of peace efforts and should receive the necessary support for the fulfilment of its tasks;

4. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme, in particular, inter alia:

(a) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine and peace efforts, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations, as well as on the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy vis-à-vis the objective of peace;

(b) To continue to issue, update and modernize publications and audiovisual and online materials on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning relevant recent developments, in particular on the efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine;

(c) To expand its collection of audiovisual material on the question of Palestine, to continue the production and preservation of such material and to update, on a periodic basis, the public exhibit on the question of Palestine displayed in the General Assembly Building as well as at United Nations headquarters in Geneva and Vienna;

(d) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel;

(e) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists aimed, in particular, at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine and peace efforts and at enhancing dialogue and understanding between Palestinians and Israelis for the promotion of a peaceful settlement to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including by fostering and encouraging the contribution of the media in support of peace between the two sides;

(f) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular through its annual training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists, and requests that arrangements be made for the provision of such training in the Euro-Mediterranean and Middle East region;

5. *Encourages* the Department to continue organizing encounters for the media and representatives of civil society to engage in open and positive discussions to explore means for encouraging people-to-people dialogue and promoting peace and mutual understanding in the region.

RESOLUTION 77/25

Adopted at the 42nd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2022, by a recorded vote of 153 to 9, with 10 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.26, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Hungary, Israel, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Czechia, Guatemala, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uruguay

77/25. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also its resolution 73/89 of 6 December 2018, entitled "Comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East",

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004, 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008 and 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 76/10 of 1 December 2021,

Recalling its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until it is resolved in all its aspects in accordance with international law and relevant resolutions,

Convinced that achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of comprehensive and lasting peace and stability in the Middle East,

Stressing that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and reiterating the importance of maintaining and strengthening international peace founded upon freedom, equality, justice and respect for fundamental human rights and of developing friendly relations among nations irrespective of their political, economic and social systems or the level of their development,

Emphasizing the need for respect for, and the preservation of, the territorial integrity and unity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[88] and recalling also its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Reaffirming the illegality of Israeli settlement activities and all other unilateral measures aimed at altering the demographic composition, character and status of the City of Jerusalem and of the Occupied Palestinian Territory as a whole, including the wall and its associated regime, demanding their immediate cessation, and condemning any use of force against Palestinian civilians in violation of international law, notably children,

Condemning the firing of rockets against Israeli civilian areas,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety, protection and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on all sides,

[88] See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

Calling for full respect for international law, including for the protection of civilian life, as well as for the promotion of human security, the de-escalation of the situation, the exercise of restraint, including from provocative actions and rhetoric, and the establishment of a stable environment conducive to the pursuit of peace,

Stressing the need for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly in the Gaza Strip, consistent with the provisions and obligations of international humanitarian law, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the Palestinian civilian population,[89]

Stressing also the need to ensure accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in order to end impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations, protect civilians and promote peace,

Calling for the release of the bodies that have not yet been returned to their relatives, in line with international humanitarian law and human rights law, in order to ensure dignified closure in accordance with their religious beliefs and traditions,

Recalling the mutual recognition 30 years ago between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[90] and stressing the urgent need for efforts to ensure full compliance with the agreements concluded between the two sides,

Stressing the need, in particular, for an immediate halt to all actions contrary to international law that undermine trust and prejudge final status issues,

Urging renewed and coordinated efforts by the international community aimed at restoring a political horizon and advancing and accelerating the conclusion of a peace treaty to achieve without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 by resolving all outstanding issues, including all final status issues, without exception, for a just, lasting and peaceful settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, in accordance with the internationally recognized basis of the two-State solution, and of the Arab-Israeli conflict, for the realization of a comprehensive peace in the Middle East,

Recognizing the efforts being undertaken by the Palestinian Government, with international support, to reform, develop, strengthen and preserve its institutions and infrastructure, despite the obstacles presented by the ongoing Israeli occupation, commending in this regard the ongoing efforts to develop the institutions of an independent Palestinian State, and stressing the need to promote intra-Palestinian reconciliation,

Expressing concern about the risks posed to the significant achievements made, as confirmed by the positive assessments by the international institutions regarding readiness for statehood, owing to the negative impact of the current instability and financial crisis being faced by the Palestinian Government and the continued absence of a credible political horizon,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, chaired by Norway, and noting its recent meeting held at the ministerial level in New York on 22 September 2022,

Recognizing the positive contribution of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, which is aimed, inter alia, at enhancing development support and assistance to the Palestinian people and strengthening institutional capacity in line with Palestinian national priorities,

Welcoming the assistance extended by the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development, held in in Ramallah and Jericho in July 2019, in support of Palestinian efforts towards an independent Palestinian State through the sharing of the experience of East Asian countries in economic development and exploring effective means of cooperation, aimed at contributing to the promotion of Palestinian development, the Middle East peace process and regional stability,

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[89] A/ES-10/794.

[90] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Taking note of the application of Palestine for admission to membership in the United Nations, submitted on 23 September 2011,[91]

Taking note also of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012, by which, inter alia, Palestine was accorded non-member observer State status in the United Nations, and taking note further of the follow-up report of the Secretary-General,[92]

Acknowledging the efforts being undertaken by civil society to promote respect for human rights and a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, stressing the need for the protection of civil society actors to allow them to conduct their work freely and without fear of attacks and harassment from any party, and rejecting any attack against civil society,

Stressing the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Recalling the Arab Peace Initiative, adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002,[93] and stressing its importance in the efforts to achieve a just, lasting and comprehensive peace,

1. *Reiterates its call for* the achievement, without delay, of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East on the basis of the relevant United Nations resolutions, including Security Council resolution 2334 (2016), the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet road map,[94] and an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967, including of East Jerusalem, and reaffirms in this regard its unwavering support, in accordance with international law, for the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

2. *Stresses* the need to urgently exert collective efforts to launch credible negotiations on all final status issues in the Middle East peace process based on the long-standing terms of reference and clear parameters and within the time frame specified by the Quartet in its statement of 21 September 2010, and calls once more for the intensification of efforts by the parties, including through meaningful negotiations, with the support of the international community, towards the conclusion of a final just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement;

3. *Calls for* the timely convening of an international conference in Moscow, as envisioned by the Security Council in its resolution 1850 (2008), for the advancement and acceleration of the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement;

4. *Stresses* that compliance with and respect for the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, is a cornerstone of peace and security in the region;

5. *Calls upon* both parties to act responsibly and in compliance with international law and their previous agreements and obligations, in both their policies and actions, in order to, with the support of the Quartet and other interested parties, urgently reverse negative trends, including all measures taken on the ground that are contrary to international law, and create the conditions necessary for a credible political horizon and the advancement of peace efforts;

6. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law and to cease all of its measures that are contrary to international law, including all unilateral actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, that are aimed at altering the demographic composition, character and status of the Territory and thus at prejudging the final outcome of peace negotiations, and recalls in this regard the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of land by force and therefore the illegality of the annexation of any part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes a breach of international law,

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[91] A/66/371-S/2011/592, annex I.

[92] A/67/738.

[93] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[94] S/2003/529, annex.

undermines the viability of the two-State solution and challenges the prospects for the achievement of a peaceful settlement and of just, lasting and comprehensive peace;

7. *Stresses* the need, in particular, for an immediate halt to all settlement activities, land confiscation and home demolitions, for the pursuit of measures to ensure accountability, and for the release of prisoners and an end to arbitrary arrests and detentions;

8. *Also stresses* the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

9. *Further stresses* the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror, as well as all acts of provocation and incitement;

10. *Reaffirms its commitment*, in accordance with international law, to the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, based on the pre-1967 borders;

11. *Underscores* in this regard the affirmation by the Security Council in its resolution 2334 (2016) of its determination to examine practical ways and means to secure the full implementation of its relevant resolutions;

12. *Calls for*:

(a) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem;

(b) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

(c) A just resolution of the problem of Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

13. *Calls upon* all States, consistent with their obligations under the Charter and relevant Security Council resolutions, inter alia:

(a) Not to recognize any changes to the pre-1967 borders, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations, including by ensuring that agreements with Israel do not imply recognition of Israeli sovereignty over the territories occupied by Israel in 1967;

(b) To distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967;

(c) Not to render aid or assistance to illegal settlement activities, including not to provide Israel with any assistance to be used specifically in connection with settlements in the occupied territories, in line with Security Council resolution 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980;

(d) To respect and ensure respect for international law, in all circumstances, including through measures of accountability, consistent with international law;

14. *Urges* all States and the United Nations to continue and expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Government during this critical period in order to help to alleviate the serious humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which is dire in the Gaza Strip, to rehabilitate the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and to support the development and strengthening of Palestinian institutions and Palestinian State-building efforts in preparation for independence;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, including through his Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, including with regard to the reporting required pursuant to resolution 2334 (2016), towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region.

RESOLUTION 77/26

Adopted at the 42nd plenary meeting, on 30 November 2022, by a recorded vote of 92 to 9, with 65 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.27, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, State of Palestine

* *In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Ukraine, Uruguay

77/26. The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East,[95]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[96] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and other activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

Expressing grave concern over the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

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[95] A/77/298.

[96] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907, and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/27

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 1 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.28, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Bahrain, Belarus, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam

77/27. Sport as an enabler of sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/5 of 3 November 2003 and 59/10 of 27 October 2004, its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education to strengthen sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and its resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 60/9 of 3 November 2005, 61/10 of 3 November 2006, 62/271 of 23 July 2008, 63/135 of 11 December 2008, 65/4 of 18 October 2010, 67/17 of 28 November 2012, 69/6 of 31 October 2014, 71/160 of 16 December 2016, 73/24 of 3 December 2018 and 75/18 of 1 December 2020,

Recalling also its resolution 67/296 of 23 August 2013, in which it proclaimed 6 April the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace,

Recalling further its resolution 76/13 of 2 December 2021 on building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal, and all its previous resolutions on this matter,

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

Recalling Policy Brief No. 73 of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, "The impact of COVID-19 on sport, physical activity and well-being and its effects on social development", and the inter-agency advocacy brief "Recovering better: sport for development and peace – reopening, recovery and resilience post COVID-19", initiated by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and co-led by the Department and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and taking note of Policy Brief No. 128 of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, "Addressing climate change through sport",

Recognizing the contribution of sport to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals, as declared in its resolutions 60/1, and 65/1 of 22 September 2010,

Recalling that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[97] inter alia, sport is recognized as an important enabler for sustainable development,

Recognizing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic significantly affected all aspects of professional, amateur and grass-roots sport, as well as organized and informal youth sport gatherings, including, on the one hand, by disrupting sporting events and impacting sport supply chains related to athletes' working conditions, the management of sporting events and mass gatherings, and occupational safety and health, and, on the other hand, by limiting access to physical activity and physical education, which poses significant challenges to the physical and mental health and well-being of individuals, families and their communities,

Recognizing also that the sport sector can contribute to addressing the adverse impacts of climate change, including by reducing its own carbon footprint, by adopting sustainability standards, and by raising awareness and influencing millions of people worldwide and their behaviours,

Acknowledging the importance of holistic approaches to health and well-being through regular physical activity, including sport and recreation, to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and promote healthy lifestyles, including through physical education, as reflected in the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[98]

Recognizing that sports, the arts and physical activity have the power to change perceptions, prejudices and behaviours, as well as to inspire people, break down racial and political barriers, combat discrimination and defuse conflict, as reflected in the political declaration adopted at the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit in 2018,[99]

Recognizing also the benefits of sport for the health of older persons, as outlined in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[100]

Recalling article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[101] outlining a child's right to play and leisure, and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",[102] stressing the promotion of physical, mental and emotional health through play and sports,

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[97] Resolution 70/1.

[98] Resolution 73/2.

[99] Resolution 73/1.

[100] *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.

[101] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[102] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

Recalling also the political declaration[103] and outcome[104] adopted at the five-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[105] and the commitments made therein to ensure equal opportunities for women and girls in recreational and sports activities, as well as in participation in athletics and physical activities at the national, regional and international levels, such as access, training, competition, remuneration and prizes,

Recalling further article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[106] in which States parties recognized the right of persons with disabilities to take part on an equal basis with others in cultural life and are to take appropriate measures to enable persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in recreational, leisure and sporting activities, and recognizing that the active involvement of persons with disabilities in sport contributes to the full and equal realization of their human rights, as well as respect for their inherent dignity, consistent with article 1 of the Convention,

Acknowledging the revised International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport, as proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-eighth session, in November 2015,[107] as well as the Declaration of Berlin and the Kazan Action Plan adopted at the fifth and sixth International Conferences of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, held, respectively, in Berlin in May 2013 and in Kazan, Russian Federation, in July 2017,

Recognizing the important role played by the International Convention against Doping in Sport[108] in harmonizing the actions taken by Governments in the fight against doping in sport, which are complementary to those undertaken by the Olympic movement and other sporting organizations under the World Anti-Doping Code of the World Anti-Doping Agency,

Acknowledging the recommendations contained in the report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group entitled "Harnessing the power of sport for development and peace: recommendations to Governments", and encouraging Member States to implement and further develop those recommendations,

Recognizing the need to strengthen and further coordinate efforts, including multi-stakeholder partnerships, at all levels to maximize the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as other internationally agreed development goals, and national peacebuilding and State-building priorities,

Acknowledging the major role of the United Nations system and its country programmes as well as the role of Member States in promoting human development through sport and physical education,

Acknowledging also the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport and the International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, including the declarations that it has adopted, in promoting the educational, cultural and social dimensions of sport and physical education, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda, and in forging commitments and recommendations in this regard,

Recalling the proclamation by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, at its thirty-eighth session, of 20 September as the International Day of University Sport,

Recalling also the role of UN-Women and the opportunities that it provides within its mandate for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, including in and through sport, and welcoming the continued advancement of women and girls in sports and sporting activities, in particular the support for their progressively higher participation in sport events, which provides opportunities for economic development through sports,

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[103] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[104] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[105] *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.

[106] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[107] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-eighth Session, Paris, 3–18 November 2015*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV, resolution 43.

[108] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2419, No. 43649.

Acknowledging the Olympic Charter, and that any form of discrimination is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic movement,

Welcoming the memorandum of understanding signed between the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations in April 2014, in which a call was made to strengthen efforts around sport-based initiatives that encourage social and economic development, as well as to strengthen the many partnerships that United Nations organizations have established with the Committee,

Affirming the invaluable contribution of the Olympic and Paralympic movements in establishing sport as a unique means for the promotion of peace and development, in particular through the ideal of the Olympic Truce, acknowledging the opportunities provided by past Olympic and Paralympic Games, including those held in Tokyo in 2021 and in Beijing in 2022, as well as the Winter Youth Olympic Games held in Lausanne, Switzerland, in 2020, welcoming with appreciation all upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games, in particular those to be held in Paris in 2024, in Milano-Cortina, Italy, in 2026, in Los Angeles, United States of America, in 2028, and in Brisbane, Australia, in 2032, as well as the Youth Olympic Games to be held in Gangwon, Republic of Korea, in 2024, and in Dakar in 2026, and calling upon future hosts of such Games and other Member States to include sport, as appropriate, in conflict prevention activities and to ensure the effective implementation of the Olympic Truce during the Games,

Recognizing the role that the Paralympic movement plays in showcasing the achievements of athletes with disabilities to a global audience and in acting as a primary vehicle to promote positive perceptions and greater inclusion of persons with disabilities in sport and society,

Recognizing also the importance of international, continental and regional sport events, such as the World Artistic Gymnastics Championships, the Special Olympics World Games, the Deaflympics, the World Indigenous Games, the European Games, the Games of La Francophonie, the Pan American Games and the Parapan American Games, the All Africa Games, the Asian Games, the Pacific Games, the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games, the World Nomad Games, the Commonwealth Games and the Universiade, for promoting education, health, development, peace and solidarity among nations,

Highlighting the importance of continuing to reduce barriers to participation in sport events, particularly for participants from developing countries,

Recognizing that major international sport events should be organized in the spirit of peace, mutual understanding and international cooperation, friendship and tolerance, and without discrimination of any kind, and that the unifying and conciliative nature of such events should be respected,

Reaffirming the importance of Member States, including those that will host such Games and other sporting events in the future, as well as relevant sport-related organizations, federations and associations, as appropriate, enhancing measures to address the risks of corruption related to such events, and in this regard welcoming the conferences on safeguarding sport from corruption, held in Vienna in June 2018 and in September 2019, noting with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this regard, in particular the publication of the *Global Report on Corruption in Sport*, and noting the efforts of the International Partnership against Corruption in Sport established in 2017,

Emphasizing the critical role of productive public-private partnerships for funding sport for development and peace programmes, institutional development and physical and social infrastructures,

Recognizing the work of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs since 2017 to promote the contributions of sport to development and peace, including its support for intergovernmental mechanisms in New York on sport-related discussions, research and thought leadership, coordination with other United Nations entities on policy, and awareness-raising efforts,

1. *Reaffirms* that sport is an important enabler of sustainable development, and recognizes the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of young people, individuals and communities as well as to physical and mental health, education and social inclusion objectives;

2. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to emphasize and advance the use of sport as a vehicle to foster sustainable development and, inter alia, strengthen education, including physical education, for children and young persons, including persons with disabilities, prevent disease, including non-communicable diseases, and drug abuse,

promote physical and mental health, realize gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, realize the empowerment of young people, foster inclusion and well-being, promote healthy and active ageing, help to ensure the participation of everyone without discrimination of any kind, promote tolerance, mutual understanding and respect and facilitate social inclusion, conflict prevention and peacebuilding;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Sport: catalyst for a better, stronger recovery for all",[109] exploring the role of sport during the changing and challenging time of the pandemic as well as the contribution of sport as a catalyst to build back better, and reviewing progress towards the implementation of the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace;

4. *Welcomes* the growing attention by the international community to exploring and leveraging the role of sport and physical activity in the attainment of development objectives and the enjoyment of human rights, and in this regard acknowledges the endorsement by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the Kazan Action Plan and its sport policy follow-up framework, adopted at the sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, as a voluntary, overarching reference for fostering international convergence among policymakers in the fields of physical education, physical activity and sports, as well as a potential tool for aligning international and national policy in these fields,[110] and the endorsement by the World Health Assembly of the global action plan on physical activity 2018–2030;[111]

5. *Encourages* Member States, the entities of the United Nations system, including its peacekeeping missions, special political missions and integrated peacebuilding missions, sport-related organizations, federations and associations, athletes, the media, civil society, academia and the private sector to draw on these frameworks, as appropriate, in a coherent and integrated manner, to advance the consolidation of sport in cross-cutting development and peace strategies and the incorporation of sport and physical education in international, regional and national development and peace policies and programmes, on the basis of standards, indicators and benchmarks, as well as to ensure the monitoring and evaluation of such strategies, policies and programmes;

6. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying, acceding to and implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto,[112] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[113] and the International Convention against Doping in Sport;

7. *Calls upon* the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates and existing resources, to strengthen system-wide coherence and to increase and expand internal coordination, encourages their ongoing collaboration to advance the role of sport as an enabler of sustainable development, in line with the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace, to maximize the potential of sport and physical activity to contribute to the achievement of the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, and other internationally agreed development goals, and national peacebuilding and State-building priorities;

8. *Encourages* Member States to include sport and quality physical education and activity in recovery plans post COVID-19, to integrate sport and quality physical education and activity into national strategies for sustainable development, taking note of the contributions that sport makes to health, to promote safe sport as a contributor to the health and well-being of individuals and communities and to effectively use all the opportunities offered by sport and by its values as a vehicle for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and in order to implement the Sustainable Development Goals and to address the adverse impacts of climate change, and encourages the United Nations system to support Member States in such efforts;

9. *Also encourages* Member States to provide institutional structures, appropriate quality standards, policies and competencies and promote academic research and expertise in the field to enable ongoing training, capacity-

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[109] A/77/161.

[110] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-ninth Session, Paris, 30 October–14 November 2017*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. IV, resolution 30.

[111] See World Health Organization, document WHA71/2018/REC/1, resolution 71.6.

[112] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

[113] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

building and education of physical education teachers, coaches and community leaders in sport for development and peace programmes, and equally encourages United Nations entities to continue to provide research, normative and policy guidance to further advance the engagement of Governments and other stakeholders in their use of sport for the achievement of development and peace, accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and strengthen efforts in that area;

10. *Invites* Member States and international sport organizations to continue to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education by providing national experiences and best practices, as well as financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sport-based programmes, including for youth and for sustainable development, and further invites the United Nations system to strengthen the provision of capacity development and technical cooperation services and financial assistance, as appropriate, to support the development and implementation of national policies and approaches to maximizing the contributions of sport for development and peace, as well as sport for all, without discrimination of any kind;

11. *Invites* Member States to work together with the United Nations system and other stakeholders to increase engagement and cooperation with one another to harness digital technology to advance sport as a tool to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, to support sport and physical activity at home, while broadening access to sport training and physical activity opportunities through online platforms;

12. *Notes* the lack of centralized global socioeconomic data and statistics on sport, acknowledges progress in the development and adoption of common indicators to measure the contribution of physical education, physical activity and sport, and encourages the United Nations system to continue its ongoing work with the Commonwealth and other international partners to establish a shared indicator framework, taking note of action 2 of the Kazan Action Plan, adopted at the sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport and endorsed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

13. *Encourages* relevant stakeholders, and in particular the organizers of sport events, to use and leverage such events to promote and support sport for development and peace initiatives and to strengthen existing and build new partnerships, coordinate common strategies, policies and programmes and increase coherence and synergies, while raising awareness at the local, national, regional and global levels;

14. *Encourages* Member States to adopt best practices and means to promote the practice of sport and physical activities among all members of society, and in this regard welcomes initiatives to adopt dedicated education, health, youth and sport days, including specialized sport days, at the national and local levels, as a means to promote physical and mental health and well-being and cultivate a sport culture in society;

15. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen collaboration with sport organizations as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, that implement sport for development and peace initiatives, including by enabling partnerships and strengthening local capacities, as appropriate, to monitor impacts and scale up actions, while also noting the role of the private sector, national and international sports federations and organizations, and all relevant national initiatives in this regard;

16. *Supports* the independence and autonomy of sport as well as the mission of the International Olympic Committee in leading the Olympic movement and of the International Paralympic Committee in leading the Paralympic movement;

17. *Notes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, Member States and civil society for the observance of the Olympic Truce, and encourages future hosts of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games and other Member States to support the effective implementation of the Truce;

18. *Encourages* relevant entities involved in delivering mega sport events to respect applicable laws and international principles, including the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United

Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[114] noting other ongoing initiatives in this regard, at every stage of the event life cycle, to safeguard the many societal benefits that hosting such events can contribute;

19. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance their efforts to prevent and fight corruption in sport and, in this regard, stresses the importance of robust legislative and law enforcement measures, and also calls upon Member States to improve cooperation and the coordination and exchange of information in accordance with the fundamental principles of their legal systems;

20. *Calls upon* Member States and the sport sector to enhance their efforts to prevent and fight trafficking in persons, in particular of children and women, as well as forced labour, sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, and all forms of violence in sports;

21. *Encourages* Member States, in particular those committed to promoting sport as a tool for development and peace, and other stakeholders, such as international sports federations, organizers of sport events, sports clubs and leagues, foundations and the private sector, especially businesses involved in the sports and development sector, to continue and intensify their support for the work of the United Nations system on sport for development and peace, including through voluntary contributions and the establishment of innovative partnerships to advance policy and programme development in the field of sport for development and peace;

22. *Encourages* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to continue its work on sport for development and peace, and encourages Member States to support the Department in its efforts, including through voluntary contributions;

23. *Encourages* Member States to actively participate in the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace, an informal group of permanent missions to the United Nations in New York and Geneva serving as a platform to promote dialogue and exchange of views and information, including on ongoing initiatives, programmes and partnerships, between Member States and all relevant stakeholders, as well as to facilitate and encourage the integration of sport to support the achievement of the United Nations goals and objectives;

24. *Also encourages* Member States, with the support of the United Nations system, within existing resources, and other relevant stakeholders, to explore ways and means to integrate sport into various development objectives in the review and follow-up processes of relevant development frameworks and agendas, including the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the reviews of the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and of the achievement of the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[115] the follow-up to the World Programme of Action for Youth,[116] the follow-up processes of Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the review and follow-up processes of the 2030 Agenda, including the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing a targeted review of the contribution of sport to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, with particular attention to the annual high-level political forum on sustainable development, when it convenes under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;

26. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled "Sport for development and peace".

RESOLUTION 77/28

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 6 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.30, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia,

[114] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[115] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[116] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam

77/28. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations[117] and on the Central Emergency Response Fund,[118]

Reaffirming the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming also the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect these principles,

Expressing grave concern at the increasing challenges caused by the unprecedented number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including protracted displacement, which are increasing in number, scale and severity and are stretching humanitarian response capacities, and expressing deep concern about the impact of climate change, the ongoing consequences of the financial and economic crisis, regional food crises, continuing food and energy insecurity, water scarcity, unplanned and rapid urbanization of populations, epidemics, natural hazards, environmental degradation, armed conflicts and acts of terrorism, which are adding to underdevelopment, poverty and inequality and are increasing the vulnerability of people while reducing their ability to cope with humanitarian crises,

Expressing gravest concerns about the humanitarian impact of and risks posed by the short- and long-term impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including on the already significant levels of humanitarian and development needs and suffering of affected people and communities, recognizing the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on women, children and people in vulnerable situations, and profoundly concerned by rising humanitarian assistance and protection needs including due to the increase in violence, including sexual and gender-based violence and violence against children, and the significant impact on education, especially for girls, as well as high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition and rising risks of famine, loss of livelihoods, and all the negative impacts on health, including mental health and psychosocial well-being, which are also exacerbated by weakened health systems, and the impacts and risks for displacement; and recognizing the compounded risks and impacts due to armed conflict, poverty, natural disasters, violence, the adverse effects of climate change, and other environmental challenges; and further recognizing the efforts and measures proposed by the Secretary-General concerning the response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Underscoring the need, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, to better align, wherever appropriate, humanitarian and development assistance with national development priorities and strategies, and encouraging Member States, as well as the United Nations system and regional organizations, in supporting the efforts of Member States, to tackle the root causes of humanitarian crises, including poverty and underdevelopment, build the resilience of affected States, including host communities, and reduce humanitarian needs,

Concerned about the growing gap between humanitarian needs and resources, welcoming non-traditional donors, and emphasizing the need to mobilize adequate, predictable, timely and flexible resources for humanitarian assistance, based on and in proportion to assessed risks and needs, with a view to planning for, mitigating, preparing for, responding to and recovering from humanitarian emergencies,

[117] A/77/72-E/2022/50.

[118] A/77/318.

Recognizing, in this regard, the significant achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in facilitating life-saving assistance to crisis-affected people by providing timely funding, enabling humanitarian organizations and their implementing partners to act quickly when tragedy strikes and steer resources to crises that do not receive the attention that they need and deserve, emphasizing the need to broaden and diversify the income base of the Fund, and welcoming in this regard the call by the Secretary-General to increase the level of the Fund to 1 billion United States dollars,

Recognizing also the significant achievements of country-based pooled funds in facilitating assistance to people in need, noting the Secretary-General's call for donors to increase the proportion of humanitarian appeal funding channelled through country-based pooled funds, and noting also that other pooled funding mechanisms can make important contributions,

Emphasizing that strengthened needs analysis, risk management and strategic planning, in coordination with affected States, including through the use of open and disaggregated data, are crucial elements to ensure a better informed, more effective, transparent and collective response to the needs of people affected by crises,

Reiterating the need for Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance and integrate a gender perspective into all disaster risk reduction efforts, including by addressing the specific needs, and promoting the priorities and capacities, of women, girls, men and boys in a comprehensive and consistent manner, and also respecting and protecting their rights, recognizing that in humanitarian emergencies, women, girls and boys face heightened risks to their safety, health and well-being, and reiterating also that it is essential to ensure that women are empowered to effectively and meaningfully participate in leadership and decision-making processes,

Reiterating also the need for Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to improve accountability at all levels for the needs of affected populations, and recognizing the importance of inclusive participation in decision-making,

Recognizing that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected in humanitarian emergencies and face multiple barriers in accessing assistance, recalling the need for the involvement of persons with disabilities in decision-making processes and for mainstreaming, where possible, their perspectives and needs in humanitarian preparedness and response, and in this regard recalling the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action,

Expressing its deep concern about the increasing challenges faced by Member States and the United Nations humanitarian response system and their capacities as a result of the consequences of disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, and reaffirming the need for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[119]

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[120] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[121] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the adoption of the New Urban Agenda by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[122] and noting the commitments undertaken therein by Member States regarding persons affected by humanitarian crises in urban areas,

Taking note of the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, and taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit,[123]

Recognizing the primary role of Member States in preparing for and responding to outbreaks of infectious disease, in compliance with the International Health Regulations (2005) adopted by the World Health Assembly,[124]

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[119] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[120] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[121] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[122] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[123] A/71/353.

[124] World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

including those that become humanitarian crises, highlighting the critical role played by Member States, the World Health Organization as the directing and coordinating authority of international health work, the United Nations humanitarian system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other humanitarian actors in providing financial, technical and in-kind support in order to bring epidemics or pandemics under control, and recognizing also the need to strengthen local and national health systems, early reporting and early warning systems, preparedness, cross-sectoral response capacities, and resilience linked to outbreaks of infectious disease, including through capacity-building for developing countries,

Recognizing also that developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, remain acutely vulnerable to human and economic loss resulting from natural hazards, and recognizing further the need for strengthening international cooperation, as appropriate, to strengthen their resilience in this regard,

Recognizing further that inclusive economic growth and sustainable development are essential for the prevention of and preparedness for natural disasters and other emergencies,

Recognizing, in this respect, that building national and local preparedness and response capacity through, inter alia, appropriate, inclusive and conducive public policies and international assistance is critical to a more predictable and effective response and contributes to the achievement of humanitarian and development objectives, including enhanced resilience and a reduced need for humanitarian response,

Recognizing that enhanced access to international climate finance is important to support mitigation and adaptation efforts in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and recognizing further the ongoing efforts in this regard,

Emphasizing the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming, in situations in which military capacity and assets are used as a last resort to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, the need for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles,

Recognizing the high number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including the unprecedented number of people who are forcibly displaced, of whom a majority are women and children, owing to conflict, acts of terrorism, persecution, violence and other reasons, and who are often displaced for protracted periods, wherein the national authorities have the primary duty and responsibility to provide protection and humanitarian assistance and promote durable solutions for internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, bearing in mind their particular needs,

Noting the need for increased awareness of the international community regarding the issue of internal displacement worldwide, including the situation of the millions living in protracted situations of displacement, and the urgency of providing adequate humanitarian assistance to and protection for internally displaced persons, supporting host communities, addressing the root causes of displacement, finding durable solutions for internally displaced persons in their countries and addressing possible obstacles in this regard, and recognizing that durable solutions include voluntary return in safety and with dignity, as well as voluntary local integration in the areas to which persons have been displaced or voluntary settlement in another part of the country, without prejudice to the right of internally displaced persons to leave their country or to seek asylum,

Reaffirming the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held on 19 September 2016,[125]

Expressing concern about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, recognizing that the average length of stay has continued to grow, and emphasizing the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving their plight and to realize durable solutions for them, consistent with the Charter of the United Nations, international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Noting with great concern that millions of people are facing famine or the immediate risk of famine or are experiencing severe food insecurity in several regions of the world, and noting that armed conflicts, drought, poverty

[125] Resolution 71/1.

and the volatility of commodity prices are among the factors causing or exacerbating famine and severe food insecurity and that additional efforts, including international support, are urgently needed to address this, recognizing in this regard the initiatives and efforts to address and mitigate rising food insecurity by the Secretary-General and the United Nations system,

Recognizing the importance of international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[126] which provides a vital legal framework for the protection of civilian persons in time of war, including the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Strongly condemning all acts of violence, including direct attacks, against humanitarian personnel and facilities, as well as against medical personnel and other humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which in a majority of cases affect locally recruited personnel, noting with concern the negative implications for the provision of humanitarian assistance to populations in need, and welcoming efforts such as the Health Care in Danger project of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, together with States, international and non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law by raising awareness, and promoting preparedness to address the grave and serious humanitarian consequences arising from such violence,

Recalling the obligations of all States and parties to an armed conflict, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which must not be attacked, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required, and noting the applicable rules of international humanitarian law relating to the non-punishment of any person for carrying out medical activities compatible with medical ethics,

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, especially national and locally recruited personnel, and including those serving with national and international non-governmental organizations in the field, often at great personal risk and a negative impact to their health, including their mental health and psychosocial well-being, especially when working in situations of armed conflict and exposed to direct violence, injury and risk of illness with limited access to medical and emergency facilities,

Noting with grave concern that violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, and violence against children, including sexual violence, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations during and after humanitarian situations,

Recognizing that, while women and girls are disproportionately affected, men and boys can also be victims and/or survivors of sexual and gender-based violence,

Noting with appreciation the efforts that Member States, the United Nations and other relevant actors continue to make to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian response based on needs, including by strengthening humanitarian response capacities, improving humanitarian coordination, identifying and integrating appropriate innovation into humanitarian preparedness, response and recovery, increasing transparency, reducing duplication, strengthening partnerships with local and national responders as appropriate, enhancing flexible, predictable and adequate funding and strengthening the accountability of all stakeholders,

Recognizing the critical importance of continuing to enhance the capacities of the United Nations humanitarian system and humanitarian organizations to reach people in need of humanitarian assistance and protection, in line with humanitarian principles,

Noting with grave concern that children and youth continue to lack education in situations of complex emergencies, and emphasizing the urgent need for increased financing and more efficient delivery of quality education in humanitarian emergencies and for facilitating continuous and equitable access to quality education for children and youth in humanitarian emergencies, including in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change and armed conflicts,

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[126] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

Recognizing that, in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, the organizations of the United Nations system should continue to consult and work in close coordination with national Governments,

Reaffirming 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 also 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 and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions,

Reaffirming further the importance of humanitarian assistance by the United Nations system, and welcoming the thirtieth anniversary of its resolution 46/182,

1. *Welcomes* the outcome of the twenty-fifth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2022,[127] and also welcomes the adoption of Economic and Social Council resolution 2022/10 of 23 June 2022;

2. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue his efforts to strengthen the coordination and accountability of humanitarian assistance and leadership within the United Nations humanitarian response system, including through the transformative agenda of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and calls upon relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and development actors, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance;

3. *Also requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to improve dialogue with all Member States on the relevant processes, activities and deliberations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

4. *Encourages* Member States and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue to improve dialogue and collaboration on humanitarian issues, at the global and field levels, including on policy, in order to foster a more consultative and inclusive approach to humanitarian assistance;

5. *Welcomes* the continued efforts by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations and non-traditional donors and the private sector, and encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts in order to effectively cooperate to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence;

6. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and humanitarian and development organizations to continue to assess and improve, together with other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, how innovation can be more proactively and systematically identified and integrated into humanitarian action in a sustainable manner and to promote the sharing of best practices and lessons learned on innovative tools, processes and approaches, including those from large-scale natural disasters and humanitarian crises of a protracted nature, that could improve the effectiveness and quality of humanitarian response, and in this regard encourages all relevant stakeholders to continue to support the efforts of Member States, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities, including through facilitating access to information and communications technologies;

[127] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/77/3), chap. XI.

7. *Welcomes* innovative practices that draw on the knowledge of people affected by humanitarian emergencies to develop locally sustainable solutions and to produce life-saving items locally, with minimal logistical and infrastructure implications;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors to continue efforts to improve the humanitarian response to disasters caused by natural and human-made hazards and complex emergencies by further strengthening humanitarian response capacities at all levels, by continuing to strengthen the provision and coordination of humanitarian assistance at the global, regional and field levels, including through existing cluster coordination mechanisms and in support of national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and by further enhancing efficiency, transparency, performance and accountability;

9. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations, other participants in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and other relevant stakeholders;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the support provided to United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators and to United Nations country teams, including by providing necessary training, identifying resources and improving the identification of and the selection process for United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators, and enhancing their performance accountability;

11. *Calls upon* the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to enhance their consultations before presenting final recommendations on the selection process for resident coordinators in countries likely to require significant humanitarian response operations;

12. *Requests* the United Nations to continue to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy appropriately senior, skilled and experienced humanitarian staff quickly and flexibly, giving paramount consideration to the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, while paying due regard to gender equality and to recruiting on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard encourages the United Nations Sustainable Development Group to continue to strengthen the resident coordinator system, on which the humanitarian coordinator system is based, ensuring, inter alia, full implementation of the management and accountability system of the Group and the resident coordinator system;

13. *Recognizes* that diversity of humanitarian staff brings value to humanitarian work and understanding of developing countries' contexts, and requests the Secretary-General to address further the insufficient diversity in geographical representation and gender balance in the composition of the humanitarian staff of the Secretariat and other United Nations humanitarian agencies, in particular regarding professional and high-level staff, and to report on concrete measures taken in this regard in his annual report;

14. *Also recognizes* that accountability is an integral part of effective humanitarian assistance, and emphasizes the need for enhancing the accountability of humanitarian actors at all stages of humanitarian assistance;

15. *Urges* Member States to continue to give priority to efforts to prevent, respond to, investigate and prosecute acts of sexual and gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to improve coordination and strengthen capacity, to ensure that humanitarian relief integrates prevention of, and risk mitigation for, sexual and gender-based violence and makes greater use of sex- and age-disaggregated data and to strengthen support services for victims, survivors and others affected by such violence beginning in the earliest stages of emergency response, taking into account their unique and specific needs resulting from the impact of such violence, and notes the Call to Action initiative;

16. *Underscores* the critical importance of protecting all persons affected by humanitarian crises, in particular women and children, from any form of sexual exploitation and abuse, including those perpetrated by humanitarian personnel, welcomes the determination of the Secretary-General to fully implement the United Nations policy of zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse and stresses that victims and survivors should be at the core of such efforts, notes the six core principles relating to sexual exploitation and abuse adopted by the Inter-Agency Standing

Committee,[128] and encourages Member States to make greater efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure that perpetrators are held accountable;

17. *Urges* Member States to continue to seek to prevent, respond to, investigate and prosecute violations and abuses against children, including exploitation, in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services for children affected by humanitarian emergencies, including those who have experienced violations and abuses, and calls for a more effective response in that regard, guided by the rights of the child;

18. *Reaffirms* the importance of implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 to ensure the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihood and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries, and underlines the importance of tackling the underlying disaster risk drivers, of considering the impact of climate change and of integrating a disaster risk reduction perspective into humanitarian assistance to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk;

19. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to enhance efforts to further study, prepare for, address and minimize the humanitarian consequences of the adverse effects of climate change and environmental risks;

20. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and relevant humanitarian and development organizations to continue to support multi-year investment, when possible, in preparedness, response and coordination capacities, and build the capacity at all levels of government, including local government, of organizations and of communities, particularly in communities exposed to disasters, to better prepare for hazards, reduce disaster risk and the risk of displacement within the context of disasters, build resilience and better respond to and recover from and build back better after disasters, and also calls upon all relevant stakeholders to complement, rather than substitute for or displace, national capacities to respond to crises, especially where those crises are prolonged or recurrent;

21. *Calls upon* Member States and the international community to provide adequate, sustainable and timely resources for disaster risk reduction, in order to build resilience and reduce the risk of displacement within the context of disasters, environmental degradation and climate change, including through complementary humanitarian and development programming and the further strengthening of national and local capacities to prevent, prepare for and respond to humanitarian emergencies, and encourages closer cooperation between national stakeholders and humanitarian and development actors in this regard;

22. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations humanitarian system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other humanitarian actors to reinforce preparedness and response capabilities in relation to those outbreaks of infectious disease that trigger or exacerbate a humanitarian crisis, including by fully implementing the International Health Regulations (2005), and calls upon the United Nations humanitarian system and humanitarian organizations to respond rapidly, based on the level 3 activation procedure for infectious disease events in humanitarian contexts, in close coordination with affected States;

23. *Calls for* the strengthening of national and multilateral approaches and international cooperation, such as the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) and its COVAX Facility, and other relevant initiatives in order to enable the fair, equitable, timely and affordable access to safe, quality, efficacious and effective COVID-19 vaccines, testing and treatment to prevent and contain transmission in order to bring the pandemic to an end, while also noting the importance of inclusive national vaccination programmes covering internally displaced persons, migrants, and refugees, and encourages United Nations agencies and other relevant stakeholders to support Member States, including refugee-hosting countries and countries of origin, in full coordination with their national government;

24. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations, as appropriate, to address non-communicable diseases and their risk factors and to treat people living with them in humanitarian emergencies;

25. *Encourages* closer cooperation between development and humanitarian actors, in coordination with Member States, to ensure that all relevant actors work together, in accordance with their mandates, towards common results with the aim of reducing need, vulnerability and risk over multiple years, based on shared understanding of the

[128] A/57/465, annex I, para. 10 (a).

context and each actor's operational strengths, in support of national priorities, while fully respecting the humanitarian principles for humanitarian action;

26. *Encourages* humanitarian and development actors to pursue, where appropriate, common risk-management and resilience objectives, achievable through joint analysis and multi-year programming and planning cycles;

27. *Encourages* the United Nations system, humanitarian organizations and development organizations to continue their efforts to mainstream preparedness, early action and early recovery into their programming, acknowledges that preparedness, early action and early recovery should receive further funding, and in this regard encourages the provision of timely, flexible, predictable and adequate resources, including from both humanitarian and development budgets, as appropriate;

28. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations to take further steps to provide a coordinated emergency response to the food and nutrition needs of affected populations, while aiming to ensure that such steps are supportive of national strategies and programmes aimed at improving food security and nutrition;

29. *Calls upon* Member States, parties to armed conflict, the United Nations, humanitarian and development organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant actors to urgently increase their measures to prevent famine and to reduce and address acute food insecurity and malnutrition, which is compounded by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and effectively respond to, prevent and prepare for rising global food insecurity affecting millions of people, especially those who are facing famine or the immediate risk of famine, including by enhancing humanitarian and development cooperation and providing urgent funding to respond to the needs of the affected population, supported by multisector early warning and analysis; and stresses the need to address food insecurity and malnutrition, including through: respect for international humanitarian law, investing in gender-sensitive humanitarian assistance and protection, livelihoods, climate adaptation and mitigation, health, water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition, sustainable food systems, access to healthy diets, energy, poverty reduction, and addressing inequalities, including gender inequality, and providing for the peaceful resolution of armed conflict, and encourages strengthening efforts to empower rural women as essential actors in achieving food security and improved nutrition, as well as to prevent and respond to negative coping mechanisms, recognizing their disproportionate impact on women and children; and calls upon Member States and parties to armed conflicts to respect international humanitarian law and ensure safe and unhindered humanitarian access;

30. *Condemns* strongly the use of starvation of civilians as a method of warfare and prohibited by international humanitarian law;

31. *Expresses concern* about the challenges related to, inter alia, safe access to and use of fuel, firewood, alternative energy, water and sanitation, shelter and food and health-care services, including mental health and psychosocial services, in humanitarian emergencies, and notes with appreciation initiatives at the national and international levels, including those that systematically identify and integrate innovative approaches and share best practices, that promote effective cooperation in this regard;

32. *Encourages* the international community, including relevant United Nations organizations and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, to support efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening their capacity to prepare for and respond to disasters and to support efforts, as appropriate, to strengthen systems, especially early warning systems, for identifying and monitoring disaster risk, including vulnerability to natural hazards, and especially to substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard warning systems;

33. *Welcomes* the growing number of Member States and regional organizations that have taken steps to promote the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, encourages others to do so, as appropriate, and welcomes the valuable support that national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies are providing to their Governments in this area, in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other partners;

34. *Encourages* States to create an enabling environment for the capacity-building of local authorities and of national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in order to ensure better preparedness in providing timely, effective and predictable assistance, and encourages the United Nations and other relevant organizations to provide support to such efforts, including, as appropriate, under the Common Framework for Preparedness of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and the

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, through the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, and expertise to developing countries and through support to enhance the coordination capacities and build capacity in science and technology of affected States;

35. *Recognizes* the increase in the number and scale of disasters, including those related to the adverse effects of climate change, which in certain instances may contribute to displacement and to additional pressure on host communities, encourages Member States, the United Nations and relevant organizations and actors to further strengthen the efforts aimed at addressing the needs of persons displaced within the context of disasters, including those induced by climate change, and notes in this regard the importance of sharing best practices to prevent and prepare for such displacements;

36. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to provide emergency assistance in ways that are supportive of recovery and long-term development, where appropriate, including through multi-year funding and prioritizing humanitarian tools that strengthen resilience, such as, but not limited to, cash-based transfers, local procurement of food and services, including for school feeding programmes, and social safety nets;

37. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to respond more effectively to needs in humanitarian contexts by, inter alia, scaling up social protection policies and cash assistance, where feasible, including multipurpose cash programming, as appropriate, to offer affected people flexibility on how to meet their humanitarian needs, and to support the development of local markets and strengthen national and local capacities, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations humanitarian organizations to continue building their capacity to systematically consider cash assistance, alongside other forms of humanitarian assistance, and takes note of efforts by the United Nations system, including moving towards a cash coordination model to increase effectiveness, efficiency, predictability and accountability of cash operations to provide multipurpose cash assistance for food, non-food items and access to services and other support;

38. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant organizations to improve, where possible, fast and flexible financing for preparedness, early action, early response and early recovery, and in this regard encourages exploring, developing and, where appropriate, the strengthening of innovative and anticipatory mechanisms and approaches, such as forecast-based financing and disaster risk insurance, to reduce the impact of disasters and address humanitarian needs;

39. *Encourages* States, as well as the United Nations, and humanitarian organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates and in line with humanitarian principles, learning from the COVID-19 pandemic experience, to continue to scale up anticipatory approaches, early warning early action systems, forecasting, prevention-oriented responses and emergency preparedness, and improve predictive and risk data analytics across sectors, reinforce systematic risk monitoring, early warning and preparedness capacities at local, national, regional and global levels, including, inter alia, those associated with health risks and disease outbreaks, and takes note of the relevant United Nations frameworks and initiatives related to health emergency preparedness;

40. *Takes note* of the efforts of Member States, the United Nations system and the international community to strengthen preparedness and local, national and regional humanitarian response capacity, calls upon the United Nations and relevant partners to support capacity-building of Member States, and calls upon Member States to continue to provide funding to humanitarian country-based pooled funds;

41. *Encourages* Member States, and calls upon relevant humanitarian organizations, to work closely with national institutions, including local governments and the private sector, as appropriate, to examine effective, context-specific ways to be better prepared for, respond to and recover from increasing emergencies in urban areas, which may have an impact on the provision of such life-saving essential services as water, energy and health care;

42. *Reaffirms* the right to education for all and the importance of ensuring safe enabling learning environments in humanitarian emergencies, as well as quality education at all levels, including for girls, including technical and vocational training opportunities, where possible, including through adequate funding and infrastructural investments, for the well-being of all, in this regard recognizes that access to quality education in humanitarian emergencies can contribute to long-term development goals and reiterates the need to protect and respect educational facilities in accordance with international humanitarian law, strongly condemns all attacks directed against schools and the use of schools for military purposes, when in contravention of international humanitarian law, and encourages efforts to promote safe and protective school environments in humanitarian emergencies;

43. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and relevant humanitarian actors to scale up support for humanitarian programming and response for safe, inclusive, equitable and quality education at all levels and ages, in order to mitigate the direct and indirect impacts from the closure of schools and other educational institutions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, among other causes, in order to help to ensure the continuation of education services, particularly for women and children, especially girls;

44. *Calls upon* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other United Nations organizations to continue to work with Member States and relevant United Nations entities to facilitate the exchange of updated, accurate and reliable information, including through mutually comprehensible, disaggregated and harmonized data, to ensure better assessment and analysis of needs in order to improve preparedness and humanitarian response;

45. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations organizations to support the improvement of the humanitarian programme cycle, including the development of coordinated and comprehensive needs assessment tools, such as multisector initial rapid assessments, the implementation of joint, impartial and timely needs assessments and prioritized needs-based humanitarian response plans, in consultation with the affected States, in order to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian action to meet the needs of people affected by humanitarian emergencies;

46. *Encourages* Member States to commit and to disburse in a timely fashion humanitarian funding based on, and in accordance with, the humanitarian appeals brought forward by the United Nations;

47. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations organizations to explore innovative risk-sharing mechanisms and to base risk management funding on objective data;

48. *Encourages* United Nations and humanitarian organizations to further advance efficiencies in delivering assistance through reducing management costs, harmonizing partnership agreements, providing transparent and comparable cost structures, and strengthening measures to achieve greater accountability by taking further actions to reduce fraud, waste and abuse and identify ways to share incident reports and other information among United Nations agencies, where appropriate;

49. *Requests* Member States, relevant humanitarian organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women in all stages of humanitarian response, to take measures to ensure the full participation of women, girls, men and boys, including persons with disabilities and older persons, in all stages of decision-making, as appropriate, in order to, inter alia, reduce gender inequalities and ensure that humanitarian assistance is informed, adapted, appropriate and effective, and to take into account the specific needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of women, girls, men and boys, taking into consideration age and disability, in the design of needs assessments and the implementation of all programming, including by seeking to ensure the provision of access to the full range of medical, legal and psychosocial and livelihood services, without discrimination, and in this regard encourages efforts to ensure gender mainstreaming, including in the collection and analysis of disaggregated data, in the analysis of allocations and programme implementation, and through greater use of the Gender with Age Marker;

50. *Recognizes* the important role that women can play as first responders, and encourages Member States, the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian organizations to support women's leadership and meaningful participation in the planning and implementation of response strategies, including by strengthening partnerships and building the capacities of national and local institutions, including national and local women's organizations, and other civil society actors, as appropriate;

51. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant humanitarian organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to ensure non-discrimination and opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in humanitarian preparedness and response;

52. *Calls upon* the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations, in coordination with Member States, to engage all people affected by disasters and crises, in particular those most at risk, including through communication, enabling their participation in relevant processes and supporting their efforts and capacities to meet their different needs, while taking into account, as appropriate, their culture, traditions and local customs;

53. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms and methodologies for improving the quality, transparency, reliability, compatibility and comparability of common

humanitarian needs assessments, needs data and analysis, including through improved collection, analysis and reporting of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability and taking into account environmental impact, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by those organizations;

54. *Calls upon* the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to enhance accountability to Member States, including affected States, and all other stakeholders, including local governments, relevant local organizations and other actors, as well as affected populations, and to further strengthen humanitarian response efforts, including by monitoring and evaluating the provision and impact of their humanitarian assistance, incorporating lessons learned into programming and consulting with the affected populations in the planning and implementation of humanitarian assistance, and making greater efforts in this regard, including by sharing timely and relevant information and enhancing affected community engagement and feedback mechanisms, so that their needs are appropriately assessed and effectively addressed;

55. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to identify better ways of working to address the increasing capacity and resource gap, in order to effectively meet the needs of affected populations, including by harmonizing and, where possible, simplifying reporting requirements, increasing the flexibility of humanitarian funding, including through reduced earmarking and further minimizing the duplication of costs, and making more use of innovation in humanitarian response;

56. *Calls upon* donors to provide adequate, timely, predictable and flexible resources, based on and in proportion to assessed needs, and to mobilize support for addressing underfunded and forgotten emergencies, to consider providing early and multi-year commitments to pooled humanitarian funds, including the Central Emergency Response Fund and country-based pooled funds, and to continue to support diverse humanitarian funding channels, encourages efforts to follow the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship[129] and to improve burden-sharing among donors, and in this respect further stresses the importance of broadening and diversifying the donor base as well as narrowing the humanitarian funding gap, and encourages the private sector, civil society and other relevant entities to make relevant contributions, complementary to those of other sources;

57. *Welcomes* the important achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in ensuring a more timely and predictable response to humanitarian emergencies, stresses the importance of continuing to improve the functioning of the Fund, and in this regard encourages the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to review and evaluate, where necessary, their partnership policies and practices in order to ensure the timely disbursement of funds from the Fund to implementing partners in order to ensure that resources are used in the most efficient, effective, accountable and transparent manner possible;

58. *Calls upon* all Member States, and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions, to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund in order to achieve an annual funding level of 1 billion United States dollars and to continue to reinforce and strengthen the Fund as the global emergency response fund, and emphasizes the need to broaden and diversify the income base of the Fund and that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and should not be to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

59. *Urges* Member States and relevant stakeholders to mobilize resources to support humanitarian response plans, which respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences, underlining the importance of rapid, flexible, predictable, adequate and effective funding, and for support to the Central Emergency Response Fund and country-based pooled funds which have played a key role in the COVID-19 humanitarian response, and calls on the United Nations and relevant partners to continue to ensure that the most critical humanitarian needs are prioritized, so that these efforts do not replace or divert resources away from pre-existing humanitarian needs and encourages efforts to provide transparency of where and how this funding delivers impact;

60. *Encourages* Member States, the private sector and all relevant individuals and institutions to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to country-based pooled funds and, as appropriate, other pooled funding mechanisms, to facilitate humanitarian assistance to people in need;

61. *Calls upon* Member States that are in a position to do so and development and humanitarian partners, in their efforts to provide flexible resources, to consider ways of better mainstreaming the need for preparedness and

[129] A/58/99-E/2003/94, annex II.

building resilience in the provision of humanitarian and development assistance, including reconstruction and rehabilitation, inter alia, with a view to ensuring smooth transition from relief to development, and encourages the United Nations system to strengthen strategic and operational partnerships with international financial institutions in order to prevent, reduce and respond to humanitarian suffering and assist those in need, strengthen early recovery efforts, reinforce basic services and reinforce rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts;

62. *Calls upon* all Member States that are in a position to do so to increase their voluntary contributions to humanitarian emergencies, including through flexible, unearmarked and multi-year funding where possible, in this context reiterates that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding, and underscores the importance of adequate, timely and flexible voluntary funding for the Office to enable it to carry out its mandate;

63. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure that the basic humanitarian needs of affected populations, including clean water, food, shelter, health, including sexual and reproductive health, education and protection, energy and information and communications technologies, where possible, are addressed as components of humanitarian response, including through providing timely and adequate resources, while ensuring that their collaborative efforts fully adhere to humanitarian principles;

64. *Also encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure that women and girls have access to basic health-care services, including reliable and safe access to sexual and reproductive health-care services and mental health and psychosocial support, from the onset of emergencies, in this regard recognizes that such assistance protects women, adolescent girls and infants from preventable mortality and morbidity that occur in humanitarian emergencies, and calls upon Member States, the United Nations and other relevant actors to give such programmes due consideration;

65. *Urges* Member States and humanitarian organizations to integrate protection and health risks, as components of humanitarian response, into humanitarian assessment, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and increase efforts to reinforce local and national systems, capacities and local communities and actors, including women-led organizations;

66. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to increase efforts to provide and fund cross-sectoral mental health and psychosocial support services that are of quality, contextually sensitive, gender-sensitive, and provided with respect for human rights, to ensure that such services are incorporated into humanitarian needs assessments and humanitarian programmes for preparedness, response and recovery, to meet the needs of all affected populations in humanitarian contexts, and to reinforce local and community-based efforts, which will be all the more important in mitigating and responding to additional psychological consequences experienced in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and calls on the United Nations and all relevant humanitarian organizations to scale up mental health and psychosocial support capacity accordingly, and report on mental health and psychosocial support programmes and funding in support of the recovery and resilience for the mental health and psychosocial well-being of all those affected, while also recognizing the impacts on humanitarian personnel and volunteers;

67. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to continue to work together to understand and address the different protection needs of affected populations, particularly the most vulnerable, in humanitarian crises and ensure that these needs are adequately integrated into preparedness, response and recovery efforts;

68. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant organizations and actors to recognize and address the consequences of humanitarian emergencies for migrants, in particular those in vulnerable situations, and to strengthen coordinated international efforts for their assistance and protection in concert with national authorities;

69. *Calls upon* Member States to take steps to ensure the international protection of and respect for the rights of refugees, including respect for the principle of non-refoulement and adequate standards of treatment in accordance with international law, including, as applicable, the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[130] and international human rights obligations;

70. *Recognizes* the importance of early registration and effective registration systems as a tool of protection and as a means of carrying out the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of

[130] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

humanitarian assistance, notes the many and diverse challenges faced by refugees who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, and underlines the importance of increasing accountability to ensure that humanitarian assistance reaches its beneficiaries;

71. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians, in accordance with international humanitarian law, encourages States that are parties to an armed conflict to take all measures necessary to enhance the protection of civilians, and invites all States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, girls, boys and men, older persons and persons with disabilities;

72. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the steps necessary to ensure the protection of the wounded and sick, as well as the safety and security of medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their facilities, equipment, transports and supplies, including by developing effective measures to prevent and address acts of violence, attacks and threats against them, and in this regard reaffirms the need for States to ensure that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law do not operate with impunity, urges States to conduct full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations within their jurisdiction of violations of international humanitarian law with a view to ensuring accountability, as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required, and notes the applicable rules of international humanitarian law relating to the non-punishment of any person for carrying out medical activities compatible with medical ethics;

73. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* the alarming increase in threats to and deliberate targeting of humanitarian and medical personnel and United Nations and associated personnel;

74. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the steps necessary to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, their facilities, equipment, transports and supplies, including by developing effective measures to prevent and address acts of violence, attacks and threats against them, requests the Secretary-General to expedite his efforts to enhance the safety and security of personnel involved in United Nations humanitarian operations, including national and locally recruited personnel, and in this regard reaffirms the need for States to ensure that those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law do not operate with impunity, urges States to conduct full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations within their jurisdiction of violations of international humanitarian law with a view to ensuring accountability, as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law, and urges Member States to scale up their efforts to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel;

75. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to acts of violence committed against civilian populations in armed conflicts and to comply with the relevant obligations under international law to end impunity and to ensure that those responsible for violations are promptly brought to justice, in accordance with national law and their obligations under international law;

76. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian and medical personnel, including those responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as their means of transport, supplies and equipment, and to support, facilitate and enable transportation and logistical supply lines, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently and safely perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons, and in this regard also reaffirms the need to take the measures necessary to respect and protect such personnel, hospitals and other medical facilities, as well as their means of transport, supplies and equipment; and urges all parties to armed conflicts, consistent with international humanitarian law, to protect civilian infrastructure which is critical to the delivery of humanitarian assistance for the provision of essential services, including for vaccinations and related medical care;

77. *Urges* States, while undertaking counter-terrorism activities, to respect their international obligations, including whenever international humanitarian law is applicable, in particular regarding the provision of humanitarian assistance to civilian populations, as well as recognizes the key role humanitarian organizations play in the provision of principled humanitarian assistance, while also recognizing the importance of preventing and suppressing the financing of and other forms of support to terrorism;

78. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[131] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, and that forced displacement is not only a humanitarian but also a development challenge, encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together, in collaboration with host communities, in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons and in particular to address the long-term nature of displacement by adopting and implementing long-term strategies and coherent multi-year planning, including in relation to issues such as livelihoods, and in this regard calls for continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for the capacity-building efforts of States and encourages humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, including with development organizations, to better address the needs of internally displaced persons in support of Member States to promote durable solutions;

79. *Notes with appreciation* the report of the Secretary-General's High-level Panel on Internal Displacement, acknowledges that increased efforts on addressing the root causes as well as prevention, protection and improved assistance to internally displaced persons and durable solutions for internal displacement are critically important, and encourages the Secretary-General to work with Member States, the United Nations system and relevant actors, as appropriate, on these efforts, and recognizes the importance of the Secretary-General's follow-up Action Agenda on Internal Displacement;

80. *Welcomes* the progress made towards further enhancing the security management system of the United Nations, and supports the approach taken by the Secretary-General to focus the efforts of the security management system on enabling the United Nations system to "stay and deliver" its most critical programmes even in high-risk environments by effectively managing the risks to which personnel are exposed, including in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and to adapt quickly to changes in local security conditions;

81. *Encourages* the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include, as part of their risk management strategy, the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and to promote acceptance by local communities and all relevant actors, including religious leaders where appropriate, in order to enable humanitarian assistance to be provided in accordance with humanitarian principles;

82. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on actions taken to enable the United Nations to continue to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy staff quickly, effectively and flexibly, to procure emergency relief materials and services rapidly, cost-effectively and locally, where applicable, and to quickly disburse funds in order to support Governments and United Nations country teams in the coordination of international humanitarian assistance;

83. *Urges* all countries to integrate into their respective national policies and development frameworks the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[132] and urges Member States, the United Nations and relevant stakeholders to work together to reduce the needs and build the resilience of the most vulnerable in order to contribute to the achievement of the Goals included in the 2030 Agenda, including the call to leave no one behind;

84. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its 2023 session, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, and to submit a report to the Assembly on the detailed use of the Central Emergency Response Fund.

RESOLUTION 77/29

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 6 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.32, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Palau, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

[131] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[132] Resolution 70/1.

77/29. International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, as well as all its resolutions on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development, and recalling the resolutions of the humanitarian affairs segments of the sessions of the Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming also the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration[133] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[134] adopted by the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015,

Recognizing that the Sendai Framework applies to the risk of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or human-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks,

Noting with concern that slow-onset disasters such as droughts are on the rise in many places and can have significant impacts on affected populations and lead to increased vulnerability to other hazards,

Recognizing the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as the main forum at the global level for strategic advice coordination and partnership development for disaster risk reduction, and recognizing also the contribution of the relevant regional and subregional platforms,

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement[135] and its early entry into force, and encouraging all the parties to the Agreement to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[136] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[137] and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the findings contained in the *Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Noting with appreciation the hosting by the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Sharm el-Sheikh, from 6 to 20 November 2022,

Welcoming the holding of the 2019 Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General on 23 September, and taking note of the multi-partner initiatives and commitments presented during the Summit,

Noting with appreciation the hosting by the Government of Indonesia of the seventh session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Bali from 23 to 28 May 2022,

Taking note of its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, in which the General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants and the annexes thereto,

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[133] Resolution 69/283, annex I.

[134] Ibid., annex II.

[135] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[136] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[137] Resolution 70/1.

Welcoming the convening of the intergovernmental conference held on 10 and 11 December 2018 in Marrakech, Morocco, and recalling that it adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, also known as the Marrakech Compact on Migration,[138]

Expressing gravest concerns about the humanitarian impacts of and risks posed by the short- and long-term effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including on the already significant levels of humanitarian and development needs and suffering of people, including those in vulnerable situations and communities affected by natural disasters, and acknowledging the related challenges for disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts,

Emphasizing the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, reaffirming, in situations in which military capacity and assets are used as a last resort to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, the need for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles, and emphasizing also in this regard the need for Member States to coordinate with all relevant actors early on in a disaster response so as to ensure the predictable, coherent and needs-based deployment of military assets and personnel supporting humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing also that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

Emphasizing further the primary responsibility of each State to undertake disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, and disaster risk management, including through the voluntary implementation of and follow-up to the Sendai Framework, as well as response and early recovery efforts, in order to minimize the impact of disasters and build resilience, while recognizing the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected countries which may have limited capacities in this regard,

Recalling the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

Recognizing the primary role of Member States in preparing for and responding to outbreaks of infectious disease, including those that become humanitarian crises, in compliance with the International Health Regulations (2005) adopted by the World Health Assembly,[139] highlighting the critical role played by Member States, the World Health Organization as the directing and coordinating authority on international health work, the United Nations humanitarian system, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and other humanitarian actors in providing financial, technical and in-kind support in order to bring epidemics or pandemics under control, and recognizing also the need to strengthen local and national health systems, early reporting and early warning systems, preparedness, cross-sectoral response capacities, and resilience linked to outbreaks of infectious disease, including through capacity-building for developing countries,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing challenges to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity to deal with the consequences of natural disasters, given the effects of global challenges, including the impact of climate change, the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis and volatile food prices on food security and nutrition, and other key factors that exacerbate the vulnerability of populations and exposure to natural hazards and the impact of natural disasters,

Expressing its deep concern also that rural and urban poor communities in the developing world are the hardest hit by the effects of increased disaster risk,

Noting with concern that women, persons with disabilities, older persons, children and youth are often disproportionately affected in natural disasters, and stressing the need to ensure that their specific needs are identified and addressed in emergency preparedness and response,

Acknowledging the impacts of rapid urbanization in the context of natural disasters and the adverse effects of climate change and that urban disaster preparedness and responses require appropriate disaster risk reduction strategies, including in urban planning, early action, rapid response and early recovery strategies implemented from

[138] Resolution 73/195, annex.

[139] World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

the initial stage of relief operations, as well as mitigation, rehabilitation and sustainable development strategies, giving special attention to the needs and capacities of persons in vulnerable situations, and that action by humanitarian and development actors in urban areas needs to recognize the complexity of cities and build urban resilience, with improved urban expertise and capacities within organizations, while building on the capabilities, opportunities and potential new partnerships present in cities and other human settlements,

Reaffirming the adoption of the outcome document entitled "New Urban Agenda" at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[140] and in this regard noting the commitments therein undertaken by Member States regarding affected populations in urban areas, and noting also the importance of implementing policies to ensure more effective disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, and disaster risk management,

Recognizing that local communities are the first responders in most disasters, underlining the critical role played by in-country capacities in disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, and capacity-building for community resilience, as well as response and recovery, and acknowledging the need to support the efforts of Member States to develop and enhance national and local capacities which are fundamental to improving the overall delivery of humanitarian assistance,

Stressing the need for all relevant actors involved in international responses to natural disasters to ensure that such responses are tailored to context, make use of appropriate tools and support local systems, including by building on local expertise and capacities,

Recognizing the adverse effects of climate change as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, which may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility,

Recognizing also the high numbers of persons affected by natural disasters, including in this respect displaced persons,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, in particular in preparedness, response and the early recovery phase, and of strengthening the response capacity of countries affected by disaster,

Recognizing the importance of sharing and making use of effective practices as part of transboundary cooperation in preparation for cross-border disaster situations, such as simulation exercises or preparedness or evacuation drills,

Recognizing also that scientific advancements can contribute to the effective forecasting of extreme weather events, which allows for a more accurate prediction and early warning of such events, leading to early action,

Taking note of the launch of the Coalition for Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure, the Risk-Informed Early Action Partnership, the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative and the Year of Action launched by the Global Commission on Adaptation that culminated in the 2021 Climate Adaptation Summit,

Recognizing the progress made by the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) in its mission,

Noting the progress made by and the role of the Global Framework for Climate Services in developing and providing science-based climate information and prediction for climate risk management and for adaptation to climate variability and change, and looking forward to continued progress in this regard, including to address identified gaps in coordinating and enabling partnerships,

Welcoming the important role played by Member States, including developing countries, that have granted necessary and continued generous assistance to countries and peoples stricken by natural disasters,

Recognizing the significant role played by national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in disaster preparedness and risk reduction, disaster response, rehabilitation and development,

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[140] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recognizing also the significant achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in facilitating life-saving assistance to crisis-affected people by providing timely funding, enabling humanitarian organizations and their implementing partners to act quickly when tragedy strikes and steer resources to crises that do not receive the attention that they need and deserve, emphasizing the need to broaden and diversify the income base of the Fund, and welcoming in this regard the call by the Secretary-General to achieve an annual funding level of 1 billion United States dollars,

Emphasizing the need to address vulnerability and to integrate disaster risk reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness, into all phases of natural disaster management, post-natural disaster recovery and development planning through close collaboration of all relevant actors and sectors,

Reaffirming that strengthening resilience contributes to withstanding, adapting to and quickly recovering from disasters,

Reaffirming also the importance of considering increasing investment in building the resilience of communities, which can be the first line of response,

Recognizing the changing scope, scale and complexity of humanitarian crises, including natural disasters, and their adverse impact on efforts to achieve economic growth, sustainable development and internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, and noting the positive contribution that these efforts can make in strengthening the resilience and preparedness of populations to such disasters and reducing displacement risk in the context of disasters,

Recognizing also the clear relationship between emergency response, rehabilitation and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of short-term and medium-term recovery, leading to long-term development, and that certain emergency measures should be seen as a step towards sustainable development,

Emphasizing, in this context, the important role of development organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders in supporting national efforts to prepare for and mitigate the consequences of natural disasters,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[141]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the increasing impact of natural disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, food insecurity, water and sanitation-related challenges, shelter and infrastructure losses, and, in some instances, displacement, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

3. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to continue to identify and systematically apply lessons learned and best practices for major sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters, including continued improvements in the areas of coordination, preparedness, risk reduction, early warning, early action, rapid response, recovery, resilience and funding to ensure improved humanitarian system-wide response and outcomes for people in need, enabled by coordinated, predictable, timely, flexible and adequate funding;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, to ensure the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries, and underlines the importance of tackling the underlying disaster risk drivers and of integrating a disaster risk reduction perspective into humanitarian assistance and development assistance programmes, as appropriate, to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations to continue to increase its support for Member States in their prioritized implementation of the Sendai Framework, including through the revised United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development, in line with the Sendai Framework, to ensure that the implementation of the Sendai Framework most effectively contributes to a risk-informed and integrated approach to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

[141] A/77/361.

Development, in particular through building resilience against disasters, reducing displacement risk in the context of disasters and supporting national and local preparedness and response capacities;

6. *Emphasizes* the need to promote and strengthen disaster risk reduction and preparedness activities at all levels, in particular in hazard-prone areas, and encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to continue to increase funding and cooperation for disaster risk reduction activities, including the strengthening of preparedness and mitigation, as well as for responding to disasters;

7. *Encourages* Member States, in line with the call in the Sendai Framework, to promote disaster risk reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness, response and recovery with a view to ensuring a rapid and effective response to disasters and to promoting international cooperation to build resilience and reduce disaster risk;

8. *Also encourages* Member States to provide dedicated financial contributions to disaster risk reduction, including prevention, mitigation and preparedness, as well as early action, rapid response and recovery efforts, in a harmonized, flexible and complementary approach that fully utilizes and helps to coordinate humanitarian and development funding options and potential;

9. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively, necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters and integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into development planning, as well as to incorporate a gender perspective into policies, planning and funding, and in this regard requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, as appropriate;

10. *Acknowledges* that climate change, among other factors, contributes to environmental degradation and to the increase in the intensity and frequency of climate and extreme weather events, both of which amplify disaster risk and contribute to displacement risk in the context of disasters, and in this regard encourages Member States, as well as relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to support adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, to strengthen disaster risk reduction and to substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems, in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including through the provision of technology and support for capacity-building in developing countries, and notes in this regard the Early Warnings for All initiative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations action plan to ensure that every person on Earth is covered by early warning systems by 2027;

11. *Urges* the United Nations, relevant humanitarian and development organizations, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen the capacity and resilience of Member States, including through capacity-building for community resilience, the application of new science and technology and investments in the context of disasters and climate change;

12. *Encourages* Member States to address the humanitarian and development needs arising from natural disaster-induced displacement, including through national policies and resilience-building, and in this regard encourages Member States, supported by the United Nations, to develop national laws and policies on internal displacement, as appropriate, which address such displacement, detail responsibilities and measures to minimize the impact of disasters, protect and assist internally displaced persons following disasters and identify, promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions, and in this respect encourages Member States to adopt standards, as appropriate, in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[142] the Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee[143] and the basic principles and guidelines on development-based evictions and displacement;[144]

13. *Also encourages* Member States to develop coherent approaches to address the challenges of displacement in the context of natural disasters, including sudden-onset and slow-onset, and takes note of relevant initiatives in this regard;

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[142] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[143] A/HRC/13/21/Add.4.

[144] A/HRC/4/18, annex I.

14. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to integrate the building of resilience and human mobility into relevant strategies, plans and legal frameworks, in particular regarding disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, as integral elements of sustainable development at the national and regional levels so as to help to prevent and mitigate displacement in the context of disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, including in urban settings where displaced persons have particular needs, requirements and vulnerabilities, and to enhance cooperation and coordination, where appropriate, to comprehensively and coherently respond to such displacement, including by preventing, preparing for and addressing it;

15. *Recognizes* the increase in the number and scale of natural disasters, including those related to the adverse effects of climate change, which in certain instances may contribute to displacement and to additional pressure on host communities, encourages Member States, the United Nations and relevant organizations and actors to further strengthen the efforts aimed at addressing the needs of persons displaced in the context of disasters, including those induced by climate change, and notes in this regard the importance of sharing best practices on prevention of and preparation for such displacements, and on the collection of data on such displacement and on durable solutions;

16. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations, relevant humanitarian and development organizations and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to enhance understanding, analysis, monitoring and assessment of the drivers, scale, dynamics, effects, patterns and duration of displacement in the context of slow-onset disasters, gradual environmental degradation and climate change, to strengthen the systematic, impartial and timely collection and sharing of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability and to strengthen evidence-based policy and operational responses at all levels in this regard, including to address the root causes of such displacement and strengthen the resilience of displaced persons and their host communities;

17. *Encourages* increased investment in and enhanced sharing of quality forecasting data, risk analytics and modelling of future displacement risks and patterns which may result from natural disasters and the adverse impacts of climate change;

18. *Encourages* Member States, regional organizations, the United Nations, humanitarian and development organizations and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to continue to strengthen international and regional collaboration to provide assistance and support and achieve durable solutions in response to displacement in the context of disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, and enhance the collection, sharing and interoperability of related disaggregated data at all levels to strengthen responses and the achievement of durable solutions to displacement, and in this regard recognizes the importance of the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement;

19. *Encourages* Member States to integrate displacement considerations into disaster preparedness strategies and promote cooperation with neighbouring and other relevant countries to prepare for early warning, contingency planning, stockpiling, coordination mechanisms, evacuation planning, reception and assistance arrangements, and public information;

20. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant organizations and actors to recognize and address the consequences of humanitarian emergencies for migrants, in particular those in vulnerable situations, and to strengthen coordinated international efforts for their assistance and protection in concert with national authorities;

21. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief and initial recovery, to adopt and implement national laws and regulations, as appropriate, to reduce the impact of the underlying drivers of disaster risk and vulnerability, and to adopt comprehensive rules and procedures for the facilitation and regulation of international disaster assistance, drawing, as appropriate, from the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, and calls upon the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant United Nations organizations and other partners for technical support in achieving these aims;

22. *Welcomes* the effective cooperation among the affected States, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, donor countries, regional and international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders, such as the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, municipalities, civil society and the private sector, in the coordination and delivery of emergency relief, and stresses the need to continue such cooperation and delivery throughout relief operations and medium- and long-term rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, in a manner that reduces vulnerability to future natural hazards;

23. *Reiterates* the commitment to support, as a matter of priority, the efforts of countries, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities at all levels in order to assess and reduce risks, prepare for and respond rapidly, effectively and safely to natural disasters and mitigate their impact;

24. *Also reiterates* the need to build the capacities of governments to manage and respond to disaster and climate risks, including by providing support for and strengthening national and, as appropriate, local preparedness and response capacities, and to build resilience, taking into account the differing needs of women, girls, boys and men of all ages, including persons with disabilities;

25. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for action at all levels to enhance efforts to build resilience through, inter alia, the sustainable management of ecosystems, in order to reduce the impacts and costs of natural disasters;

26. *Urges* Member States to develop, update and strengthen early warning systems, disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with the Sendai Framework, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and to improve their response to early warning information in order to ensure that early warning leads to early action, implemented effectively in a timely manner, including through scaled-up, predictable and multi-year support, such as forecast-based financing and other anticipatory risk financing instruments, and encourages all stakeholders to support the efforts of Member States in this regard;

27. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to continue to support early warning and early action efforts, including through forecast-based financing at the global, regional and national levels, including for multi-hazard early warning systems, climate services, exposure and vulnerability mapping, new technologies and communication protocols, so that persons in vulnerable situations who are exposed to natural hazards, including in geographically remote locations, receive timely, reliable, accurate and actionable early warning information, and encourages the international community to further support national efforts in this regard;

28. *Encourages* the United Nations, humanitarian and development organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to support, as appropriate, the efforts of Member States to address the underlying vulnerability and root causes of disaster risk and to work towards ensuring financing support that is coherent, layered and sequenced;

29. *Encourages* Member States to develop or enhance forecast-based preparedness and early action and rapid response systems, including through the establishment and networking of risk management centres, as well as the coordination of existing networks, ensure that comprehensive procedures are in place and make resources available for actions in anticipation of natural disasters, and invites relevant bodies of the United Nations system and other stakeholders to engage in these efforts;

30. *Encourages* the United Nations system and humanitarian and development organizations to support Member States, their national and local authorities, as well as local communities to reinforce early warning and early action systems in their disaster and climate risk management frameworks;

31. *Encourages* Member States to consider elaborating and presenting to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction their national platforms for disaster risk reduction in accordance with the Sendai Framework, and encourages States to cooperate with each other to reach this objective;

32. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, to provide, in a coordinated manner, support for national and regional efforts by providing, in the context of natural disasters, the assistance necessary to increase sustainable food production and access to healthy and nutritious food and its utilization, while fully respecting the humanitarian principles for humanitarian action;

33. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations, international financial institutions and humanitarian and development organizations, as appropriate, to increase efforts to prevent famine and prevent and address food insecurity and malnutrition and their underlying causes related to disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, among other principal drivers, including by providing urgent funding and multisectoral assistance to respond to the needs of affected populations, such as those in hard-to-reach areas, and by developing and strengthening resilient and sustainable food systems, shock-responsive social protection systems and the use of cash and voucher assistance and

disaster risk insurance to strengthen livelihoods, food production, and recovery, and by improving the availability and use of data on food security and nutrition risks and impacts;

34. *Recognizes* the importance of applying a multi-hazard approach to preparedness, and encourages Member States, taking into account their specific circumstances, and the United Nations system to continue to apply the approach to their preparedness activities, including by giving due regard to, inter alia, secondary environmental hazards stemming from industrial and technological accidents;

35. *Stresses* that, to increase further the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, of regional and subregional capacities for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, and more efficiently and at lower cost;

36. *Also stresses* the importance of investment in disaster-resilient infrastructure and structural and non-structural disaster risk reduction measures, including nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches, among other approaches, for preventing and mitigating the humanitarian impacts of natural disasters and helping to reduce the cost of disaster response, recovery and reconstruction, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

37. *Acknowledges* that the recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, which needs to be prepared ahead of a disaster, is a critical opportunity to "build back better";

38. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders to continue to support the localization of disaster preparedness and response and work to ensure that national and local actors are enabled to respond to community-level needs and priorities, and strengthen collaboration and partnerships between international, national, local and regional actors with a view to reinforcing national and local capacities, leadership and coordination mechanisms;

39. *Calls upon* the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to continue to strengthen the engagement of affected people and local communities in disaster preparedness and response, including in the planning and implementation stages as well as in building resilience, including in coordination with national Governments and in accordance with their mandates;

40. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations to continue to implement community engagement approaches through which communities receive timely information and which can improve the targeting of humanitarian assistance;

41. *Encourages* Member States and regional organizations to work together to strengthen regional cooperation to improve national and regional capacity to understand and reduce risks and prepare for and respond to disasters in support of national efforts, including by exchanging experiences and best practices;

42. *Encourages* Member States to move from reactive to more anticipatory risk-based, multi-hazard and inclusive approaches, such as the promotion of ex ante investments to prevent disaster risks and build resilience, the promotion of environmental and spatial measures and the integration of lessons from past disasters, as well as awareness of new risks, into future planning;

43. *Encourages* innovative practices that draw on the knowledge of people affected by natural disasters to develop locally sustainable solutions and to produce life-saving items locally, with minimal logistical and infrastructure implications;

44. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the timely provision of humanitarian assistance through all phases of a disaster, from relief and recovery to development, including the provision of adequate resources;

45. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders, including Member States, to take appropriate measures to reduce and discourage the sending of unsolicited, unneeded or inappropriate relief goods in response to disasters;

46. *Encourages* all Member States to facilitate, to the extent possible, the transit of emergency humanitarian assistance and development assistance and the entry of humanitarian personnel and supplies, provided in the context of international efforts, including in the phase from relief to development, in full accordance with the provisions of resolution 46/182 and the annex thereto, and in full respect of the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, and their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law;

47. *Encourages* Member States to put in place, as appropriate, customs measures to improve effectiveness in responding to natural disasters;

48. *Reaffirms* the leading role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for the advocacy for and coordination of humanitarian assistance among United Nations humanitarian organizations and other humanitarian partners;

49. *Recognizes* the importance of global and regional operational readiness and response services, networks and surge mechanisms in strengthening the effectiveness of disaster prevention, preparedness and response, and encourages further efforts in this regard by, inter alia, strengthening partnerships with national disaster management agencies and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and building, reinforcing and complementing their capacities, in close coordination with the United Nations and humanitarian organizations, including through improved data sharing and interoperability;

50. *Welcomes* the important contribution of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination system to the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance in supporting Member States, upon their request, and the United Nations system in preparedness and humanitarian response, and encourages the continued incorporation into this mechanism of experts from developing countries that are prone to natural disasters;

51. *Also welcomes* the important contribution of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group to the effectiveness of international urban search and rescue assistance, and encourages Member States to continue to support the Advisory Group, in line with General Assembly resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002;

52. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to consider the specific and differentiated consequences of natural disasters in both rural and urban areas when designing and implementing disaster risk reduction, prevention and mitigation, preparedness, humanitarian assistance and early recovery strategies, giving special emphasis to addressing the needs of those living in rural and urban poor areas prone to natural disasters;

53. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, and other relevant stakeholders to continue to take concrete action for the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda, in order to strengthen resilience to disasters and the adverse effects of climate change, and ensure that sustainable development in urban settings is informed by disaster risk, giving special attention to the needs and capacities of persons in vulnerable situations;

54. *Recognizes* the important contribution of healthy ecosystems to reducing disaster risk and building community resilience, and encourages all States, United Nations entities and other relevant actors to promote ecosystem-based approaches and nature-based solutions for disaster risk reduction at all levels and across all phases of disaster risk reduction and management;

55. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations, traditional and non-traditional donors and the private sector, and encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts in situations of natural disasters, in order to cooperate effectively in providing humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence;

56. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to increase efforts to engage the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises, through strategic partnerships in disaster risk reduction activities and disaster response and recovery, as appropriate;

57. *Recognizes* that information and telecommunications technology can play an important role in disaster response, encourages Member States to develop emergency response telecommunications capacities that are accessible to all, including persons with disabilities, encourages the international community to assist the efforts of developing countries in this area, where needed, including in the recovery phase, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not acceded to or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations[145] to consider doing so;

[145] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

58. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies, including as provided by the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), as well as the sharing of geographical data, for the forecasting, prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate, and invites Member States to continue to provide their support to the consolidation of the United Nations capability in the area of satellite-derived geographical information for early warning, preparedness, response and early recovery;

59. *Encourages* Member States to provide all support necessary, on a voluntary basis, to UN-SPIDER, including financial support, to enable it to carry out its workplan, and reiterates the importance of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services for all countries and by facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries;

60. *Recognizes* the opportunities for new technologies, when utilized in a coordinated fashion and based on humanitarian principles, potentially to improve the effectiveness and accountability of humanitarian response, and encourages Member States, the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to consider engaging, inter alia, with the volunteer and technical communities, as appropriate, in order to make use of the variety of data and information available during emergencies and disaster risk reduction efforts to strengthen the evidence-based shared understanding of disaster risk and impacts and to work to improve efficiencies in this regard;

61. *Encourages* the United Nations to continue to strengthen its provision of data-related services and policy advice and build the data skills of its humanitarian staff, in order to improve the effectiveness of disaster preparedness and response;

62. *Encourages* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and international financial institutions to enhance the global capacity for sustainable post-disaster recovery in areas such as coordination with traditional and non-traditional partners, identification and dissemination of lessons learned, development of common tools and mechanisms for recovery needs assessment, strategy development and programming, and incorporation of disaster risk reduction into all recovery processes, and welcomes the ongoing efforts to this end;

63. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations system to support national initiatives that address the differentiated impacts of natural disasters on the affected population, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated, inter alia, by sex, age and disability, using, inter alia, the existing information provided by States, and through the development of tools, methods and procedures that will result in more timely and useful initial needs assessments that lead to targeted and more effective assistance, and taking into account the environmental impact;

64. *Calls upon* United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for effective humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of, and make further progress towards, common humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by these organizations;

65. *Encourages* Member States to take steps to develop or to improve data collection and analysis and to facilitate the exchange of relevant non-sensitive information with humanitarian and development organizations of the United Nations, including through shared platforms and a common approach, in order to inform policy and measures designed to address disaster risks and their consequences, to support preparedness efforts, including forecast-based action and financing and disaster risk financing, and to improve the effectiveness and accountability of a needs-based humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations system, as appropriate, and other relevant actors to continue to assist developing countries in their efforts to build local and national capacities for data collection and analysis;

66. *Also encourages* Member States, with support from the United Nations upon request, to establish and strengthen national disaster loss databases, risk profiles and available capacities and to continue to collect, share and use such data to inform relevant policies and strategies;

67. *Encourages* Member States, regional organizations, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to continue to improve the identification, mapping and analysis of risks and vulnerabilities, including the local impact of future disaster risk drivers, and the development and implementation of appropriate strategies and programmes to anticipate and address them, including through the use of science, technology and innovation, and in this regard encourages all the relevant stakeholders to support Governments in capacity

development, including at the regional and local levels, through the sharing of expertise and tools and the provision of necessary resources, as appropriate, to ensure that effective disaster management plans and capacities are in place in accordance with national priorities for disaster risk management;

68. *Stresses* the importance of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and of gender mainstreaming in developing and implementing disaster risk reduction, preparedness, early action, rapid response and recovery strategies, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that gender mainstreaming is better taken into account in all aspects of humanitarian responses and activities, including the analysis of allocations and programme implementation, and through greater use of the Gender with Age Marker;

69. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to promote women's leadership, gender equality and empowerment of women and their full and effective participation in the planning and implementation of natural disaster response strategies and humanitarian response to effectively address their specific needs, including through strengthening partnerships with, and building the capacities of, national and local institutions, including national and local women's organizations and civil society actors, as appropriate, to adopt gender-responsive programming on mitigation and adaptation to climate change and to support the resilience and adaptive capacities of women and girls to respond to and recover from adverse impacts of climate change;

70. *Encourages* Governments, local authorities, the United Nations system and regional organizations, and invites donors and other assisting countries, to address the vulnerabilities and capacities of women and girls through gender-responsive programming, including with regard to sexual and reproductive health needs and means to address sexual and gender-based violence and various forms of exploitation during emergencies and in post-disaster environments, and the allocation of resources in their disaster risk reduction, response and recovery efforts in coordination with the Governments of affected countries;

71. *Encourages* Member States, humanitarian organizations and other relevant stakeholders, in the context of natural disasters, to ensure access to safe drinking water and adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, including women and girls;

72. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming the perspective of persons with disabilities in disaster risk reduction, and recognizes the importance of non-discrimination and their inclusive and active participation in and contribution to disaster risk reduction, preparedness, emergency response, recovery and transition from relief to development, as well as the implementation of systematic approaches, policies and programmes that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities, recognizing that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected in humanitarian emergencies and face multiple obstacles in accessing humanitarian assistance, and recalls the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action;

73. *Encourages* efforts to provide safe and enabling learning environments and access to quality education for all, especially for girls and boys, in humanitarian emergencies caused by natural disasters, including in order to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

74. *Also encourages* efforts to strengthen the disaster resilience and safety of schools, reduce interruptions to education during natural disasters, including interruptions to school meals, and in this regard encourages international support to countries that are vulnerable to natural hazards, as appropriate;

75. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to incorporate mental health and psychosocial support services into disaster preparedness, response and recovery;

76. *Encourages* Member States and relevant regional and international organizations to identify and improve the dissemination of best practices, including in the context of COVID-19, for improving disaster preparedness, response and early recovery and to scale up successful local initiatives, as appropriate;

77. *Requests* the United Nations humanitarian and development organizations to improve their coordination of disaster recovery efforts, from relief to development, inter alia, by strengthening institutional, coordination and strategic planning efforts in disaster preparedness, resilience-building and recovery, in support of national authorities, and by ensuring that development actors participate in strategic planning at an early stage;

78. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to support national, subnational and local governments and communities in their responsibility to develop long-term strategies, forecast-

based financing and preparedness systems and multi-year operational plans for preparedness that are embedded within disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies in line with the Sendai Framework;

79. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other humanitarian actors to improve the dissemination of tools and services to support enhanced disaster risk reduction, in particular preparedness, early action, rapid response and early recovery;

80. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations humanitarian and development organizations, in consultation with Member States, to strengthen tools and mechanisms to ensure that early recovery needs and support are integrated into the planning and implementation of disaster preparedness, humanitarian response and development cooperation activities, as appropriate;

81. *Encourages* the United Nations system and humanitarian organizations to continue their efforts to mainstream early recovery into humanitarian programming, acknowledges that early recovery is an important step towards resilience-building and should receive further funding, and encourages the provision of timely, flexible and predictable funding for early recovery, including through established and complementary humanitarian and development instruments;

82. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to prioritize risk management and shift towards an anticipatory approach to humanitarian crises in order to prevent and reduce human suffering and economic losses; and encourages scaling up of early warning and early action systems, forecasting, prevention-oriented responses and emergency preparedness, strengthening of their coordination, coherence, complementarity and impact, and an increase in the use of disaster risk analysis, climate science, predictive analytics, reinforcing systematic risk monitoring and the sharing of data and analysis across sectors and at all levels to better prevent and address disaster and climate risks and impacts;

83. *Reaffirms* its decision to hold a midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework in 2023;

84. *Encourages* international financial institutions to accelerate anticipatory financing at scale for preparedness and response as well as for risk-informed resilient recovery, including pre-agreed contingency financing, in ways that complement and reinforce humanitarian pooled funds;

85. *Urges* Member States, humanitarian and development organizations and other stakeholders to ensure a comprehensive and coherent approach at the global, regional, national and local levels to El Niño and La Niña phenomena and similar or related events, including by strengthening forecasting, early warning and early action, prevention, preparedness, resilience-building and timely response, supported by effective leadership and predictable, adequate and early funding, when feasible, in regions, countries and communities likely to be affected, and notes the work of the Special Envoys of the Secretary-General on El Niño and Climate and the blueprint for action prepared by them, and the standard operating procedures for El Niño/Southern Oscillation events of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

86. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations to enhance the use of common risk analysis, including the use of the Index for Risk Management, to establish the evidence base for short-, medium- and long-term planning and joint strategies for disaster and climate risk management, capacity development and resilience-building, allowing for greater prioritization of resources where the risk is greatest;

87. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to work towards a common understanding of underlying risks, clarify roles and responsibilities according to their respective mandates and establish joint objectives and programmes informed by affected people, data and analysis to strengthen coordination, collaboration and coherence among short-, medium- and long-term activities to progressively reduce needs and vulnerability, build resilience and manage the risk related to climate change and of disasters and development setbacks over multi-year planning cycles, including through integrating risk management into national sustainable development plans and ensuring the connectivity of humanitarian plans with the longer-term sustainable development priorities of Member States, with a view to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

88. *Stresses* the need to strengthen resilience at all levels, and in this regard encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant actors to support efforts, as appropriate, to integrate resilience into humanitarian and development programming, and encourages humanitarian and development actors to pursue, where appropriate, common resilience and risk management objectives, achievable through joint analysis, planning, programming and funding;

89. *Encourages* Member States, international financial institutions and the private sector to support further development and, where appropriate, the strengthening of anticipatory financing approaches, to mobilize predictable and multi-year support and to work collectively towards common results in order to reduce need, risk and vulnerability, making use of a wide range of financing flows and instruments and partnerships to mobilize additional resources in the field of natural disasters;

90. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to provide emergency assistance in ways that are supportive of recovery and long-term development, in collaboration with development organizations, as appropriate, in accordance with their respective mandates, including by prioritizing humanitarian tools and approaches that strengthen resilience, including preparedness, and support livelihoods, and to support further development and, where appropriate, the strengthening of anticipatory financing approaches, such as, but not limited to, cash transfers, vouchers, local procurement of food and services and social safety nets;

91. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian and development actors to support humanitarian coordinators and resident coordinators in order to strengthen their capacity, inter alia, to support the host Government in implementing preparedness measures and to coordinate preparedness activities of country teams in support of national efforts, and encourages the United Nations system and other relevant humanitarian actors to further strengthen the ability to quickly and flexibly deploy humanitarian professionals to support Governments and country teams in the immediate aftermath of a disaster;

92. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations and humanitarian and development organizations to identify ways to improve the current financing architecture in order to better provide coherent, predictable and flexible longer-term funding for risk management in multi-year strategies and forecasting, in particular preparedness, on the basis of a global assessment of risk, allowing for better prioritization of resources where the risk is greatest;

93. *Recognizes* that enhanced access to international climate finance is important to support mitigation and adaptation efforts in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and also recognizes the ongoing efforts in this regard;

94. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders to scale up finance for adaptation and disaster risk reduction to countries and local communities that are affected by compound risks caused by humanitarian emergencies and vulnerability to natural hazards and the adverse effects of climate change to prevent, mitigate, adapt and respond to disaster impacts, to reduce humanitarian needs, risks and vulnerabilities related to disasters and to build resilience to shocks;

95. *Emphasizes* the need to mobilize adequate, flexible and sustainable resources for preparedness and disaster risk reduction, early action, rapid response and early recovery activities in order to ensure predictable and timely access to resources for humanitarian assistance in emergencies resulting from disasters associated with natural hazards;

96. *Welcomes* the important achievements of the Central Emergency Response Fund in ensuring a more timely and predictable response to humanitarian emergencies, stresses the importance of continuing to improve the functioning of the Fund, and in this regard encourages the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to review and evaluate, where necessary, their partnership policies and practices in order to ensure the timely disbursement of funds from the Fund to implementing partners in order to ensure that resources are used in the most efficient, effective, accountable and transparent manner possible;

97. *Calls upon* all Member States, and invites the private sector and all concerned individuals and institutions, to consider increasing their voluntary contributions to the Central Emergency Response Fund in order to achieve an annual funding level of 1 billion United States dollars, and to continue to reinforce and strengthen the Fund as the global emergency response fund, and emphasizes that contributions should be additional to current commitments to humanitarian programming and should not be to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development;

98. *Also calls upon* Member States to continue to increase support to the Central Emergency Response Fund and humanitarian country-based and regional pooled funds for strengthening early and rapid response to mitigate the impact of disasters, including in underfunded contexts and increasingly through local and national responders and implementing partners;

99. *Invites* Member States, the private sector and all other relevant stakeholders to harness their differentiated skills, capacities and resources, and also to consider voluntary contributions to humanitarian funding mechanisms;

100. *Strongly encourages* giving appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, and the building of resilience to disasters as integral elements of sustainable development and in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[146] and promoting a complementary and coherent approach between those Agendas and the Sendai Framework;

101. *Strongly encourages* all relevant actors to work to ensure a comprehensive, coherent, systematic and people-centred approach to managing risks, including through, as appropriate, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement and the New Urban Agenda;

102. *Takes note* of the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, and of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit;[147]

103. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the international response to natural disasters and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and to include in his report recommendations on how to ensure that humanitarian assistance is provided in ways supportive of the transition from relief to development.

RESOLUTION 77/30

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 6 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.34, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland

77/30. Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/126 of 10 December 2021, as well as its previous resolutions on the question,

Recalling also the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[148] and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

Recalling further all relevant international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and, in particular, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[149] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[150] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[151] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[152]

Gravely concerned at the difficult living conditions and humanitarian situation affecting the Palestinian people, in particular women and children, throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, particularly in the Gaza Strip where economic recovery and vast infrastructure repair, rehabilitation and development are urgently needed, especially in the aftermath of the conflict of July and August 2014,

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[146] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[147] A/71/353.

[148] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[149] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[150] Ibid.

[151] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[152] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

Welcoming, in this context, the development of projects, notably on infrastructure, to revive the Palestinian economy and improve the living conditions of the Palestinian people, stressing the need to create the appropriate conditions to facilitate the implementation of these projects, and noting the contribution of partners in the region and of the international community,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all people, in particular women and children, in the whole Middle East region, the promotion of which is facilitated, inter alia, in a stable and secure environment,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact, including the health and psychological consequences, of violence on the present and future well-being of children in the region,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities, and recalling in this regard the National Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza,

Expressing grave concern about the grave humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance and the need for the advancement of reconstruction in the Gaza Strip,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Underlining the importance of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014, and urging the timely and full disbursement of pledges for expediting the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reconstruction process,

Recalling the International Donors' Conference for the Palestinian State, held in Paris on 17 December 2007, the Berlin Conference in Support of Palestinian Civil Security and the Rule of Law, held on 24 June 2008, and the Palestine Investment Conferences, held in Bethlehem from 21 to 23 May 2008 and on 2 and 3 June 2010, and the International Conference in Support of the Palestinian Economy for the Reconstruction of Gaza, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, on 2 March 2009,

Welcoming the ministerial meetings of the Conference on Cooperation among East Asian Countries for Palestinian Development, convened in Tokyo in February 2013 and in Jakarta in March 2014, as a forum to mobilize political and economic assistance, including through exchanges of expertise and lessons learned, in support of Palestinian development,

Welcoming also the latest meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians, held in Brussels on 27 May 2015, in New York on 25 September 2013, 22 September 2014, 30 September 2015, 19 September 2016, 18 September 2017, 27 September 2018 and 26 September 2019, by videoconference on 2 June 2020 and on 23 February 2021, in Oslo on 17 November 2021, in Brussels on 10 May 2022 and in New York on 22 September 2022,

Welcoming further the activities of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Welcoming the implementation of the Palestinian National Development Plan 2011–2013 on governance, economy, social development and infrastructure and the adoption of the Palestinian National Development Plan 2014–2016: State-building to Sovereignty, and stressing the need for continued international support for the Palestinian State-building process, as outlined in the summary by the Chair of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee held on 22 September 2014,

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people,

Recognizing, in this regard, the positive contribution of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2014–2016, which is aimed, inter alia, at enhancing developmental support and assistance to the Palestinian people and strengthening institutional capacity in line with Palestinian national priorities,

Welcoming steps to ease the restrictions on movement and access in the West Bank, while stressing the need for further steps to be taken in this regard, and recognizing that such steps would improve living conditions and the situation on the ground and could promote further Palestinian economic development,

Welcoming also the tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations regarding access to the Gaza Strip, and calling for its full implementation and complementary measures that address the need for a fundamental change in policy that allows for the sustained and regular opening of the border crossings for the movement of persons and goods, including for humanitarian and commercial flows and for the reconstruction and economic recovery of Gaza,

Stressing that the situation in the Gaza Strip is unsustainable and that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides,

Stressing also the urgency of reaching a durable solution to the crisis in Gaza through the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009, including by preventing the illicit trafficking in arms and ammunition and by ensuring the sustained reopening of the crossing points on the basis of existing agreements, including the 2005 Agreement on Movement and Access between the Palestinian Authority and Israel,

Stressing, in this regard, the importance of the effective exercise by the Palestinian Authority of its full government responsibilities in the Gaza Strip in all fields, including through its presence at the Gaza crossing points,

Noting the active participation of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority in the activities of the Special Envoys of the Quartet,

Reaffirming the necessity of achieving a comprehensive resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its aspects, on the basis of relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003, 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008 and 1860 (2009), as well as the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference and the principle of land for peace, in order to ensure a political solution, with two States – Israel and an independent, democratic, contiguous, sovereign and viable Palestinian State – living side by side in peace and security and mutual recognition,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[153]

Expressing grave concern about continuing violence against civilians,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and ongoing efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people, including with regard to the emergency humanitarian needs in the Gaza Strip;

3. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

5. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as

[153] A/77/93-E/2022/67.

generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

6. *Welcomes* the meetings of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians of 25 September 2013, 22 September 2014, 27 May and 30 September 2015, 19 September 2016, 18 September 2017, 27 September 2018, 26 September 2019, 2 June 2020, 23 February and 17 November 2021, 10 May and 22 September 2022 and the outcome of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014, and the generous donor response to support the needs of the Palestinian people, and urges the rapid disbursement of donor pledges;

7. *Stresses* the importance of following up on the results of the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza to effectively promote economic recovery and reconstruction in a timely and sustainable manner;

8. *Calls upon* donors that have not yet converted their budget support pledges into disbursements to transfer funds as soon as possible, encourages all donors to increase their direct assistance to the Palestinian Authority in accordance with its government programme in order to enable it to build a viable and prosperous Palestinian State, underlines the need for equitable burden-sharing by donors in this effort, and encourages donors to consider aligning funding cycles with the Palestinian Authority's national budget cycle;

9. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with priorities set forth by the Palestinian side;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and recognizes the vital role of the Agency in providing humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the difficult humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women, children and their families and to help in the reconstruction and development of relevant Palestinian institutions;

12. *Stresses* the role that all funding instruments, including the European Commission's Palestinian-European Mechanism for the Management of Socioeconomic Aid and the World Bank trust fund, have been playing in directly assisting the Palestinian people;

13. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

14. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

15. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of ensuring free humanitarian access to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

16. *Also stresses* the need for the full implementation by both parties of existing agreements, including the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population, as well as for imports and exports, within and into and out of the Gaza Strip;

17. *Further stresses* the need to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, premises, facilities, equipment, vehicles and supplies, as well as the need to ensure safe and unhindered access by humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently perform their task of assisting affected civilian populations;

18. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend to the Palestinian people, as rapidly as possible, emergency economic assistance and humanitarian assistance, particularly in the Gaza Strip, to counter the impact of the current crisis;

19. *Stresses* the need for the continued implementation of the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed

in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[154] including with regard to the full, prompt and regular transfer of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(a) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(b) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

RESOLUTION 77/31

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 6 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.35, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, State of Palestine

77/31. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Recalling all relevant resolutions on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, including its resolution 76/127 of 10 December 2021, as well as Security Council resolutions on the protection of humanitarian personnel, including resolution 2175 (2014) of 29 August 2014, and relevant statements by the President of the Council,

Recalling also all Security Council resolutions and presidential statements and reports of the Secretary-General to the Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including resolution 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016,

Reaffirming the principles, rules and relevant provisions of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, as well as all relevant treaties,[155] and the need to further promote and ensure respect thereof,

Recalling the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[156] and the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977,[157] and the obligation of parties to armed conflict to respect and ensure respect for international humanitarian law in all circumstances, and urging all such parties to comply with international humanitarian law and ensure respect for and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

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[154] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

[155] These include, notably, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947, the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994, the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 8 December 2005, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 8 June 1977, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996 to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980, as applicable.

[156] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[157] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

Recalling also the specific obligations, under international humanitarian law, to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, and hospitals and other medical facilities, which must not be unlawfully attacked, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required,

Deeply concerned by the continuous disregard, in many cases, for the principles and rules of international law, in particular international humanitarian law,

Reaffirming the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter of the United Nations or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Expressing its appreciation to those Governments which respect the internationally agreed principles on the protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, while expressing concern over the lack of respect for these principles in some areas,

Noting the fact that the number of States parties to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[158] which entered into force on 15 January 1999, has reached 95, mindful of the need to promote the universality of the Convention, and welcoming the entry into force on 19 August 2010 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[159] which expands the scope of legal protection under the Convention,

Expressing deep concern at the complex and dynamic security environment, marked by the diverse and multifaceted threats and significant security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel as they operate in increasingly high-risk environments, and the number of attacks directed against such personnel, including when they are on the roads, in public spaces, on United Nations premises and providing humanitarian assistance,

Deeply concerned about the particular vulnerability of national and locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who accounted for once again the majority of safety and security incidents of all humanitarian personnel in 2021, including road traffic crashes and other safety-related incidents, fatalities and injuries from acts of violence, abduction, robbery, residence break-ins and burglaries, aggravated assault, sexual assaults, intimidation and harassment, and arrest and detention, and concerned that six out of seven United Nations personnel killed as a result of violent acts in 2021 were locally recruited,[160]

Reaffirming its commitment to the zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse throughout the United Nations system, including the agencies, funds and programmes, and further emphasizing that the United Nations and humanitarian organizations should maintain internal systems to prevent, mitigate and address sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment against their own staff,

Expressing deep concern at the exposure of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to certain forms of crime and acts of intimidation and harassment, including sexual violence and other forms of violence against women, and equally concerned at the significant number of reported sexual assaults against both male and female United Nations personnel,

Noting with concern the increasing threat of disinformation campaigns that undermine trust in the United Nations and humanitarian organizations and put humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel at risk,

Expressing deep concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel is a factor that severely restricts the provision of assistance and protection to

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[158] Ibid., vol. 2051, No. 35457.

[159] Ibid., vol. 2689, No. 35457.

[160] A/77/362, paras. 32–33.

populations in need, and commending the commitment of United Nations and other humanitarian personnel to stay and deliver effectively the most critical programmes, even in dangerous environments,

Stressing the need to uphold the respect and protection which the flag of the United Nations, and the nature of humanitarian work, should command and ensure, and stressing the importance of fully respecting the obligations relating to the use of vehicles and premises of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel as defined by relevant international instruments, as well as the obligations relating to distinctive emblems recognized in the Geneva Conventions,

Noting that medical personnel, and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, in an armed conflict situation continue to be under a duty to provide competent medical service in full professional and moral independence, with compassion and respect for human dignity, and always to bear in mind human life and to act in the patient's best interest, stressing the need to uphold their respective professional codes of ethics, and further noting the applicable rules of international humanitarian law relating to the non-punishment of any person for carrying out medical activities compatible with medical ethics,

Commending the courage and commitment of those who take part in humanitarian operations, especially national and locally recruited personnel, and including those serving with national and international non-governmental organizations in the field, often at great personal risk and a negative impact on their health, including their mental health and psychosocial well-being, especially when working in situations of armed conflict and exposed to direct violence, injury and risk of illness with limited access to medical and emergency facilities,

Commending also the courage and commitment of those who take part in peace operations, including peacekeeping operations,[161] often at great personal risk, especially national and locally recruited personnel,

Expressing deep appreciation for the efforts of the United Nations system and for the essential work of medical and humanitarian personnel working on the front line of the humanitarian response in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, and strongly condemning the high number of attacks, including against national and locally recruited medical and humanitarian personnel, as well as their means of transport and equipment, medical facilities and medical and relief supplies,

Noting with concern the evolving threats that United Nations personnel face when deployed and that, in 2021, 1,652 persons were affected by safety and security incidents, with 18 fatalities, of which 7 resulted from acts of violence, namely, crime and armed conflict, 180 injuries, of which 82 resulted from acts of violence, 9 abductions, 177 arrests and detentions and 386 reported cases of intimidation and harassment,[162] and noting that these figures do not include United Nations personnel who are not part of the United Nations security management system, such as locally recruited area staff of UNRWA, of whom 37 were injured, 19 were arrested and detained and 87 reported cases of intimidation and harassment in 2021,[163]

Strongly condemning all acts of violence, attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel, expressing profound regret at the deaths, injuries, including those resulting in disabilities, and abductions resulting from these attacks, noting with concern that there were 461 recorded attacks against humanitarian personnel in 2021, resulting in at least 141 personnel killed, 203 wounded and 141 kidnapped,[164] and noting with concern that casualties continue to take a heavier toll on personnel of non-governmental organizations than on United Nations personnel,[165]

Strongly condemning also all acts of violence, attacks and threats against medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, and the prevailing impunity for violations and abuses committed against such personnel, which in turn may contribute to the recurrence of those acts, and deploring the long-term consequences of such acts,

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[161] The safety and security of United Nations peacekeepers is specifically addressed in the annual report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (*Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/74/19). Except where otherwise specified, the present resolution focuses only on the safety and security of civilian United Nations and associated personnel falling under the United Nations security management system under the responsibility of the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat.

[162] See A/77/362, annexes I and III.

[163] Ibid., annex V.

[164] See Aid Worker Security Report, October 2022.

[165] These data are based entirely on voluntary reporting to the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat (see A/77/362, annex IV). The personnel of non-governmental organizations are not covered by the United Nations security management system.

which undermine relevant efforts to build up and strengthen health systems for the population and the health-care systems of the countries concerned, and in this regard welcoming efforts by States, international and non-governmental organizations and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law by raising awareness of and promoting preparedness to address the grave and serious humanitarian consequences arising from such violence,

Noting with appreciation all the measures taken to enhance the performance of the United Nations security management system,

Expressing profound regret at the deaths, illnesses and other adverse consequences affecting humanitarian personnel and health-care personnel as a result of public health hazards, and stressing the need for a conducive environment, appropriate equipment and resilient public health systems, and the urgency of preparedness,

Expressing deep concern at the deep and long-lasting impacts of acts of violence, attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

Strongly condemning acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children, and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention, to which those participating in humanitarian operations are exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property of humanitarian and United Nations and associated personnel,

Affirming the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and against their premises or assets do not operate with impunity, that such attacks are investigated promptly and effectively and that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice, as provided for by national laws and in accordance with obligations under international law,

Recognizing the critical importance of continuing to strengthen existing monitoring systems for the safety and security of humanitarian and medical personnel in light of the challenging security environment in which such personnel operate, and emphasizing that United Nations and humanitarian organizations, including local humanitarian actors, should have timely access to available and relevant information that can be used effectively and to adequate and predictable resources for emergency response to strengthen risk assessment and effective security risk management, including through a gender perspective, and recognizing the importance of collaboration with States in this regard,

Recognizing the role of investigations in the prevention of incidents and the promotion of respect for international humanitarian law,

Recalling the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter, as long as they are entitled to the protection given to civilians or civilian objects under the international law of armed conflict, as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[166] and noting the role that the Court can play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

Reaffirming the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations and associated personnel, including locally recruited personnel, which constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, and mindful of the need to promote and enhance security consciousness within the organizational culture of the United Nations and a culture of accountability at all levels, as well as to continue to promote awareness of and sensitivity to national and local cultures and laws,

Gravely concerned at the number of accidents and resulting casualties among United Nations and associated personnel, and conscious of the importance of road and aviation safety in ensuring the continuity of United Nations operations and preventing casualties among civilians and United Nations and associated personnel, and in this regard regretting the loss of civilian life as a result of such incidents,

[166] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

Stressing that acceptance of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel by the host Governments, local authorities, local communities, populations and other parties as appropriate crucially contributes to their safety and security,

Noting the importance of reinforcing close collaboration between the United Nations and the host country on contingency planning, information exchange and risk assessment in the context of good mutual cooperation on issues relating to the security of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as the importance of coordinating prevention and mitigation measures and managing security in crisis situations,

Noting also the importance of further collaboration between the United Nations, its humanitarian agencies and other humanitarian organizations working in accordance with the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence on information-sharing and risk assessment with regard to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, including, when feasible, national and locally recruited personnel,

Noting further that, in order to remain fit for purpose and to support the effective and principled delivery of humanitarian assistance, the United Nations security management system needs to evolve in response to the challenging global security environment, requiring, inter alia, an effective management structure, adequate and predictable resources and the timely deployment of security personnel with appropriate skills and field experience and of the equipment necessary for the performance of their duties, including vehicles and telecommunications equipment, which have an essential role in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[167]

2. *Urges* all States to make every effort to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, and refugee law as applicable, related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* the continued threats to and deliberate targeting of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, acts of terrorism and attacks on humanitarian convoys, and the continued increase in the scale and the increasingly complex nature of threats faced by such personnel, such as the disturbing trend of politically and criminally motivated attacks, including extremist attacks, against them;

4. *Strongly urges* all States to take the measures necessary to ensure the safety and security of national and international humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

5. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and the delivery of supplies and equipment, in order to allow those personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

6. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian and medical personnel, including those responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and other health emergencies, as well as their means of transport, supplies and equipment, and to support, facilitate and enable transportation and logistical supply lines, in order to allow such personnel to efficiently and safely perform their task of assisting affected populations, and in this regard also reaffirms the need to take the measures necessary to respect and protect such personnel, hospitals and other medical facilities, as well as their means of transport, supplies and equipment, and urges all parties to armed conflicts, consistent with international humanitarian law, to protect civilian infrastructure which is critical to the delivery of humanitarian assistance for the provision of essential service;

[167] A/77/362.

7. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments;

8. *Also calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

9. *Further calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, and urges States parties to put in place appropriate national legislation, as necessary, to enable its effective implementation;

10. *Calls upon* all States, all parties involved in armed conflict and all humanitarian actors to respect the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

11. *Welcomes* the contribution of female humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel in humanitarian and United Nations operations, expresses concern that these personnel may be more exposed to certain forms of violence, including sexual violence; sexual exploitation and abuse; crime; and acts of intimidation and harassment, strongly urges the United Nations system and Member States to analyse the different forms of violence, including sexual violence; sexual exploitation and abuse; crime; acts of intimidation and harassment to which women and men are differently exposed, and also strongly urges the United Nations system and Member States to choose appropriate and gender-sensitive approaches for their safety and security while allowing them to fulfil their duties, and to ensure that female humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are meaningfully included in decisions related to their safety and security, and that all reports of sexual violence against humanitarian workers are thoroughly investigated, and the alleged perpetrators brought to justice, in accordance with applicable laws;

12. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence, attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, also condemns attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations as long as they are entitled to protection from attack under international humanitarian law, and reaffirms the need to prosecute, penalize and punish those responsible for such acts;

13. *Underscores* the critical importance of protecting all persons affected by humanitarian crises, in particular women and children, from any form of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, including those perpetrated by United Nations and humanitarian personnel, welcomes the determination of the Secretary-General to fully implement the United Nations policy of zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse and stresses that victims and survivors should be at the core of such efforts, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to work in close consultation with Member States for the effective implementation of the policy, including prevention, reporting, enforcement and remedial actions;

14. *Stresses* the importance of continued close coordination and consultation with host Governments on the functioning of the security risk management process and related tools, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to continue to consult with the host Governments;

15. *Also stresses* the importance of ensuring that the security and safety of humanitarian and United Nations personnel, including national and locally recruited personnel, is consistently and integrally considered in the planning for humanitarian action;

16. *Calls upon* all States to comply fully with their obligations under international humanitarian law, including as provided for under the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[168] in order to respect and protect civilians, including humanitarian personnel;

17. *Stresses* the obligation, in accordance with international humanitarian law and national laws and regulations, as applicable, to respect and protect medical personnel, as well as humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, in all circumstances, in this regard notes the role of domestic legal frameworks and other appropriate measures in promoting the safety and protection of such personnel, urges States and all parties to armed conflict to develop and integrate effective measures to prevent and address violence against such personnel, their means of transport and

[168] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, and strongly urges States to conduct full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations within their jurisdiction of violations of international humanitarian law related to the protection of the wounded and sick, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities in armed conflict, and, where appropriate, to take action against those responsible in accordance with domestic and international law, with a view to reinforcing preventive measures, ensuring accountability and addressing the grievances of victims;

18. *Urges* States, while undertaking counter-terrorism activities, to respect their international obligations, including whenever international humanitarian law is applicable, in particular regarding the provision of humanitarian assistance to civilian populations, as well as recognizes the key role humanitarian organizations play in the provision of principled humanitarian assistance, while also recognizing the importance of preventing and suppressing the financing of and other forms of support to terrorism;

19. *Strongly urges* all States to take stronger action to ensure that crimes against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, and personnel involved in a peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as long as they are entitled to protection from attack under international humanitarian law, do not remain unpunished and are investigated fully and effectively, and affirms the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of any such acts committed on their territory do not operate with impunity, as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

20. *Calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of the arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel so as to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained and to ensure their right to legal counsel, and urges States to take the measures necessary to ensure the speedy release of those who have been arrested or detained in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

21. *Calls upon* all parties involved in armed conflict not to abduct, take hostage or kidnap humanitarian personnel or United Nations and associated personnel or to detain them in violation of the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm or requirement of concession, any abductee or detainee;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary to promote full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and associated personnel, and also requests the Secretary-General to seek the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarters and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[169] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[170] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

23. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission, host country and other related agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

24. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen the ongoing efforts of the United Nations to develop a more systematic follow-up process with relevant host Governments on cases of serious crimes and acts of violence resulting in the death or serious injury of United Nations system personnel, in order to bring perpetrators to justice;

25. *Calls upon* States to explore and scale up measures for more systematic monitoring, reporting and investigation of attacks against humanitarian and medical personnel;

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[169] Resolution 22 A (I).

[170] Resolution 179 (II).

26. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption by the Department of Safety and Security, in collaboration with other departments and offices of the Secretariat, of standard operating procedures on the victims of violence registry for fatalities in service, designed to provide follow-up with relevant host Governments on cases of serious crimes and acts of violence resulting in the death or serious injury of United Nations personnel;

27. *Calls attention to and reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to respect and, where required, observe the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter;

28. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are aware and respectful of national and local customs and traditions in their countries of assignment and communicate clearly their purpose and objectives to local populations in order to enhance their acceptance, thereby contributing to their safety and security, and in this regard ensure that humanitarian action is guided by humanitarian principles;

29. *Urges* the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include as part of their risk management strategy and training the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and the promotion of acceptance by local communities and all relevant actors, with a view to enhancing safety and security and ensuring access to the affected populations, and encourages Member States to support efforts by the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to provide training to humanitarian personnel in this regard;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take the measures necessary to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with mandatory security risk management measures and relevant codes of conduct and are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant national laws and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights law and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

31. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in coordination with Member States, to take the measures necessary to ensure that all United Nations premises and assets, including staff residences, are compliant with the United Nations mandatory security risk management measures and other relevant United Nations security standards, and to continue the ongoing assessment of United Nations premises and physical security worldwide;

32. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations personnel receive adequate safety and security training, stresses the need to continue to improve training so as to enhance cultural awareness and knowledge of relevant law, including international humanitarian law, prior to their deployment to the field, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

33. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to provide counselling and support services to United Nations personnel affected by safety and security incidents, and emphasizes the importance of making available stress management, mental health and related services for United Nations personnel throughout the system, and encourages all humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

34. *Further welcomes* the ongoing measures taken by the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to enhance road safety, including through the United Nations system road safety strategy, so as to reduce incidents caused by road hazards and, in particular, to reduce casualties or injuries resulting from such incidents among United Nations and associated personnel and among the civilian population in the host country, encourages humanitarian organizations to promote similar approaches among their personnel, and requests the Secretary-General to continue the collection and analysis of data and to report on road incidents, including civilian casualties resulting from road accidents;

35. *Welcomes* the progress made towards further enhancing the security management system of the United Nations, including the major progress in the completion of the integration of all security personnel of the Secretariat under the leadership of the Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security, and supports the continued implementation of the stay-and-deliver strategy while focusing on effectively managing the risks to which personnel are exposed in order to enable the United Nations system to deliver the most critical programmes, even in high-risk environments;

36. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue consistent implementation of the programme criticality framework as an operational tool allowing informed decisions on acceptable risk to United Nations personnel, and welcomes the revised programme criticality framework;

37. *Also encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to develop enabling procedures that facilitate the deployment of suitably qualified United Nations security personnel with the appropriate knowledge, skills and experience, with the aim of improving the safety and security measures of the United Nations, in order to strengthen the ability of the United Nations to deliver on its programmes, mandates and activities, including humanitarian programmes;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General, inter alia, through the Inter-Agency Security Management Network, to continue the increased cooperation and collaboration among United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations, including between their headquarters and field offices, in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security, training and awareness, including field crisis management and gender inclusion in security management, calls upon all relevant United Nations departments, organizations, funds and programmes and affiliated international organizations to support those efforts, and notes the approval by the Inter-Agency Security Management Network of a system-wide policy on the security of locally recruited personnel;

39. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to make every effort to support in their public statements a favourable environment for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, including locally recruited personnel;

40. *Emphasizes* the need to pay particular attention to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, who play an important role, are often at great personal risk, account for the large majority of casualties and are particularly vulnerable to attacks, including in cases of kidnapping, harassment, banditry and intimidation, requests the Secretary-General to keep under review the relevant United Nations safety and security policy and to enhance the safety and security of locally recruited personnel, while maintaining operational effectiveness, and calls upon the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to ensure that their personnel are adequately consulted on, informed about and trained in the relevant security measures, plans and initiatives of their respective organizations, which should be in line with applicable national laws and international law;

41. *Requests* the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat to further strengthen the security management of the United Nations, focusing on strengthening security risk management policy and tools and their application, increasing situational awareness and analysis capacity, strengthening policy development and promoting best practices, increasing compliance with risk management measures and improving monitoring and evaluation, enhancing surge capacity for emergency response, devising effective physical security measures, developing the expertise of security professionals and strengthening support to the designated officials and the security management teams in the field, and promoting an effective and preventive security management approach that is multidimensional;

42. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, together with the United Nations security management system organizations, to continue to improve and effectively utilize the existing incident data system, strengthen monitoring and management of security risks, including through a gender perspective, and timely data sharing;

43. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant actors to enhance existing data-sharing mechanisms, as appropriate, and to facilitate field-driven support services to humanitarian actors, including training and orientation sessions and sharing comparative, predictive and thematic analyses that take into account disaggregated data;

44. *Welcomes* the work of the Secretary-General in enhancing security collaboration with host Governments, including efforts to support United Nations designated officials with regard to collaboration with host government authorities on the safety and security of personnel;

45. *Stresses* that the effective functioning at the country level of security operations requires a unified and robust capacity for policy, standards, coordination, communication, compliance and threat and risk assessment and operational and deployment flexibility to ensure that the security workforce reflects the changing dynamics of the security environment, and notes the benefits thereof to United Nations and associated personnel, including those achieved by the Department of Safety and Security since its establishment;

46. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far to strengthen partnerships, and encourages further efforts to enhance coordination, cooperation and information-sharing, at both the headquarters and field levels, between the United Nations, regional organizations and other humanitarian and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field, based on the Saving Lives Together framework as well as other relevant national and local initiatives in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General in this respect to enhance further collaborative initiatives to address the security needs of implementing partners, including through enhanced information-sharing, assistance in emergency situations, when feasible, and, where appropriate, security training, invites Member States to consider increasing support to those initiatives, and requests the Secretary-General to report on steps taken in this regard;

47. *Underlines* the urgent need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, through regular and extrabudgetary resources, including through the consolidated appeals process, and encourages all States to contribute to the trust fund for security of staff members of the United Nations system, inter alia, with a view to reinforcing the efforts of the Department of Safety and Security to meet its mandate and responsibilities to enable the safe delivery of programmes;

48. *Also underlines* the need for better coordination between the United Nations and host Governments, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, on the use and deployment of essential equipment required to provide for the safety and security of United Nations personnel and associated personnel working in the delivery of humanitarian assistance by United Nations organizations;

49. *Calls upon* States to consider acceding to or ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998,[171] which entered into force on 8 January 2005, and urges them to facilitate and expedite, consistent with their national laws and international obligations applicable to them, the use of communications equipment in those and other relief operations, inter alia, by limiting and, whenever possible, expeditiously lifting the restrictions placed on the use of communications equipment by United Nations and associated personnel;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a comprehensive and updated report on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution, including an assessment of the impact of safety and security risks on such personnel, and the development, implementation and outcomes of policies, strategies and initiatives of the United Nations system in the field of safety and security.

RESOLUTION 77/32

Adopted at the 45th plenary meeting, on 6 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.10, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Maldives, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen

77/32. International Year of Dialogue as a Guarantee of Peace, 2023

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the important role of the United Nations in developing friendly relations among nations,

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations and its purposes and principles, and especially the commitment to settle disputes through peaceful means and the determination to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

[171] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2296, No. 40906.

Recognizing the importance of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace,[172] which serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Reaffirming that inclusive dialogue in its various manifestations plays an important role in strengthening the relationship and cooperation between Member States,

Reaffirming also the role of inclusive dialogue in promoting a culture of peace in support of proactive peace efforts as a basis for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

Welcoming the efforts made by the United Nations Member States to address global challenges and advance in a spirit of trust and solidarity, in order to find common solutions and move forward in areas of mutual interest towards a relationship based on dialogue and cooperation,

Recognizing that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for the prevention of conflicts, the peaceful settlement of disputes, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, mediation, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, social inclusion, democracy, the rule of law, good governance and gender equality at the national and international levels contribute greatly to a culture of peace,

Recognizing also the role of international, regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with their mandates, in the promotion and preservation of peace,

Recognizing further the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, of choosing dialogue and negotiations over confrontation and of working together and not against each other,

Recognizing that the open, constructive and respectful debate of ideas, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national, regional and international levels, can play a positive role in combating religious hatred, incitement and violence,

Emphasizing the role of women and youth, as well as the contribution of children and older persons in advancing a culture of peace, and in particular the importance of the active participation of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in activities promoting a culture of peace, including in post-conflict situations,

Recognizing the importance of developing more peaceful societies through advancing equality, tolerance, human development and promoting human rights, and in this regard calling for investment in education, including through effective policies and practices, towards promoting respect, reconciliation and a culture of peace and non-violence,

Emphasizing that the policy of neutrality declared and pursued by States Members of the United Nations plays an important role in the development of peaceful, trust-based, friendly and mutually beneficial relations among the countries of the world and contributes to the strengthening of international peace and security at the regional and global levels,

Recognizing the importance of combating poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy and unemployment, and emphasizing that friendship to all and malice towards none, in the spirit of constructive cooperation, dialogue and mutual understanding, will help to achieve these objectives,

Convinced that dialogue contributes to combining the efforts of the international community in consolidating the traditions of peaceful and trust-based coexistence among the peoples of the world, restoring the values, attitudes and traditions of maintaining and promoting peace and the comprehensive establishment of a culture of peace and trust in international relations,

Recognizing the urgent need to promote and strengthen preventive diplomacy, inter alia, through multilateralism and political dialogue, and the important role of the United Nations in this regard,

[172] Resolutions 53/243 A and B.

Stressing the importance of preventive diplomacy in supporting the efforts of the United Nations to promote the peaceful settlement of conflicts, in order to preserve peace,

Welcoming the efforts of the international community to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations, in particular through various initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Expressing its appreciation for the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in fostering international dialogue, greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs and promoting a culture of peace through a number of practical projects in the areas of youth, education, media and migrations, in collaboration with Governments, international organizations, foundations and civil society groups, as well as media and the private sector,

Noting the importance of the Eighth United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Forum, held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 and 20 November 2018 under the theme "#Commit2Dialogue: partnerships for prevention and sustaining peace", as well as the Ninth United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Global Forum, held in Fez, Morocco, on 22 and 23 November 2022 under the theme "Towards an alliance of peace: living together as one humanity", aimed at discussing ways of promoting dialogue, tolerance, cultural and religious diversity and pluralism,

Welcoming the work of the Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions as an international interreligious dialogue platform for the benefit of peace, and noting the importance of the Declaration of the Seventh Congress, held in Astana on 14 and 15 September 2022,

Reaffirming 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,

Emphasizing that dialogue is a transformative peacebuilding method in resolving conflicts and in building peace,

Recognizing that dialogue as a valuable tool in conflict resolution and prevention can help to ease tensions, resolve disputes, overcome dividing lines and contribute to a culture of peace and non-violence, people-to-people contacts and reconciliation,

Noting that the Secretary-General is working to advance dialogue through cooperation with Governments, international organizations, regional bodies, civil society and the private sector,

1. *Declares* 2023 the International Year of Dialogue as a Guarantee of Peace;

2. *Underlines* that the International Year of Dialogue as a Guarantee of Peace constitutes a means of mobilizing the efforts of the international community to promote peace and trust among nations based on, inter alia, political dialogue, negotiations, mutual understanding and cooperation, in order to build sustainable peace, solidarity and harmony;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to resolve conflicts through inclusive dialogue and negotiation in order to ensure the strengthening of peace and trust in relations between Member States as a value that promotes sustainable development, peace and security and human rights;

4. *Acknowledges* the importance of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution and in seeking long-term political solutions for sustaining peace, and recognizes that mediation needs to be further and more effectively used, without prejudice to other means mentioned in Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals and other relevant stakeholders, to facilitate the observance of the International Year of Dialogue as a Guarantee of Peace in an appropriate manner and to disseminate the advantages of peace and trust, including through educational and public awareness-raising activities;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals;

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

RESOLUTION 77/117

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.22, sponsored by: Angola, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

77/117. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 75/14 of 23 November 2020 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System,

Bearing in mind the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System,[173] in which the parties agree to strengthen and expand their cooperation in matters that are of common concern in the fields of their respective competence pursuant to their constitutional instruments,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[174]

Reaffirming that cooperation between the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System and the United Nations has evolved and diversified with regard to areas of cooperation,

Recalling the signing of the framework agreement between the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, on 26 October 2017, to strengthen technical and institutional cooperation in the region,

Recalling also the signing of the memorandum of understanding between the World Tourism Organization and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System, on 11 October 2021, to promote and strengthen the sustainable development of tourism, highlighting its contribution to poverty reduction and development,

Emphasizing that the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System is an important partner in the implementation of the 2015–2030 regional action plan for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[175] in the Americas and the Caribbean, which was updated at the seventh Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Caribbean, held in Jamaica from 1 to 4 November 2021,

Acknowledging with satisfaction the joint efforts made by the international community in its struggle to counter the effects of one of the greatest global challenges to humanity, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the positive assessment of the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System, and urges the parties to continue to strengthen the collaboration between both organizations;

2. *Also takes note with satisfaction* of the holding of the forty-seventh regular meeting of the Latin American Council of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System on 29 and 30 November 2021, as well as its work programme aimed at building a regional agenda for integration and cooperation that contributes to overcoming the economic and social lags in its member countries;

3. *Urges* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to continue to deepen its coordination and mutual support activities with the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System;

4. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization,

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[173] Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 1061).

[174] A/77/277-S/2022/606.

[175] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, as well as the International Organization for Migration and the World Tourism Organization, to continue and intensify their support for and to strengthen their cooperation, in accordance with their respective mandates, with the activities of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System, and to contribute to joint actions to achieve sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and all its Goals and objectives;[176]

5. *Invites* the international community to continue to support the work of the different regional organizations in order to intensify cooperation and the exchange of relevant information to mitigate the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/118

Adopted at the 51st plenary meeting, on 9 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.33, sponsored by: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu

77/118. Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its annual resolutions on sustainable fisheries, including resolution 76/71 of 9 December 2021, and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),[177] and bearing in mind the relationship between the Convention and the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Agreement),[178]

Noting with satisfaction the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention by the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea on 30 April 1982 and the opening for signature of the Convention on 10 December 1982 at Montego Bay, Jamaica,

Welcoming ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement and the fact that a growing number of States, entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement, and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, have taken measures, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, in order to improve their management regimes,

Welcoming also the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Committee on Fisheries, and recognizing in particular the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Code) and other related instruments, including the international plans of

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[176] Resolution 70/1.

[177] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[178] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

action, which set out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices for the conservation of fisheries resources and the management and development of fisheries, as well as the 2005 Rome Declaration on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing,

Noting with appreciation the outcomes, including the decisions and recommendations, of the thirty-fifth session of the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held in Rome from 5 to 9 September 2022,[179]

Recognizing the importance of data collection through accurate and reliable reporting and monitoring of catches, including by-catch and discards, as a fundamental element of effective fisheries management that provides a basis for scientific stock assessment, and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management,

Recalling that the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration will run from 2021 to 2030 and will provide important opportunities to address gaps in ocean science, increase knowledge, improve synergies and support the sustainable conservation and management of marine resources, as well as to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide,

Noting with concern that the effective management of marine capture fisheries has been made difficult in some areas by unreliable and incomplete information and data caused by, inter alia, unreported and misreported fish catch and fishing effort and that this lack of accurate data undermines the assessment of fish stocks and contributes to overfishing in some areas, and in this regard recalling that members of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements must fully comply with their associated data-collection and reporting obligations, including to ensure that required data submissions are complete, reliable and submitted in a timely manner,

Recognizing the second World Ocean Assessment, launched in April 2021, which provides information on the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, in relation to, inter alia, fisheries,

Recognizing also the significant contribution of sustainable fisheries to food security and nutrition, income, wealth and poverty alleviation for present and future generations,

Welcoming in this regard the work by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on strengthening food security and nutrition as a contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

Welcoming in this regard the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want", as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

Welcoming the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, held from 25 to 27 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, and in this regard reaffirming the commitment to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as reflected in Goal 14 of the outcome document,

Noting the voluntary national reviews on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, particularly on Goal 14,

Recalling its resolution 76/296 of 21 July 2022, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future, our responsibility" adopted by the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July 2022, as well as its resolution 71/312 of 6 July 2017, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action" adopted by the Conference held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017, and in this regard reaffirming the important role of the declarations in demonstrating the collective determination to act decisively and urgently to improve the health, productivity, sustainable use and resilience of the ocean and its ecosystem,

Recognizing the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of the 2022 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14:

[179] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2023/24.

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development to the effective and timely implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,

Welcoming in this regard the continuous attention given by the international community to the role of fish and fish products in nutrition and food security, including by the Committee on World Food Security of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, especially noting the importance of the availability of highly nutritious food for low-income populations,

Recalling the decision in its resolution 71/124 of 7 December 2016 to designate 2 May as World Tuna Day,

Recalling also the decision in its resolution 72/72 of 5 December 2017 to proclaim 5 June the International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, to draw attention to the threats posed by illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities to the sustainable use of fisheries resources as well as to ongoing efforts to fight these activities,

Noting that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, thanked the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of China for the successful convening of the Global Conference on Aquaculture Millennium+20 with valuable outputs, noted the importance of the Conference as a significant global platform to engage a broad range of stakeholders in aquaculture, and encouraged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue organizing such conferences,

Recalling the decision in its resolution 72/72 to proclaim the year beginning on 1 January 2022 the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture, recalling that the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, at its thirty-fourth session, emphasized the opportunity to focus attention on the role of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture in poverty eradication, ending hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition, and noting the launch of the Global Action Plan for the International Year for Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture in June 2021,[180]

Noting with appreciation the activities undertaken in connection with the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture,[181]

Taking note of the summary of the discussions at the two-day workshop held on 2 and 3 August 2022 to discuss the implementation of paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123, addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks, prepared by its moderator,[182]

Recalling that, in "The future we want", States were encouraged to give due consideration to implementing the Committee on World Food Security Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,[183]

Noting that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has developed the Global Work Programme to Advance Knowledge on Rights-based Approaches for Fisheries as a means to support the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication and to facilitate the formalization of appropriate access and resource rights in small-scale and artisanal fisheries in both developing and developed countries, in order to improve the governance of fisheries,

Noting also that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, called upon all States to enable fishers and fish workers in small-scale fisheries to participate in the process of decision-making concerning fisheries management,

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[180] Available at https://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/CB4875EN/.

[181] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document COFI/2022/4.1/Rev.1.

[182] See A/77/321.

[183] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

Recalling the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication,

Recognizing the urgent need for action at all levels, relying on the best available scientific information to ensure the long-term sustainable use and management of fisheries resources through the wide application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches,

Welcoming the endorsement by the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, of the proposal to establish a subcommittee on fisheries management,

Reiterating its concern over the current and projected adverse effects of climate change on food security and the sustainability of fisheries, noting in that regard the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme, and noting with concern the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel in its special report on the ocean and cryosphere in a changing climate,

Recalling the entry into force of the Paris Agreement,[184] and noting that it aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, including by increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience,

Noting with appreciation the comprehensive review of the impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture and adaptation options undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its commitment to ensuring that conservation and management measures adopted by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements are based on the best available scientific information,

Taking note of the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022*, in which it was stated that progress had been made in some regions but that the state of marine fishery resources, based on the long-term monitoring of assessed marine fish stocks by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, has continued to decline and that 35.4 per cent of assessed marine fish stocks were estimated to be fished at a biologically unsustainable level and therefore overfished as of 2019,

Recognizing the need for enhanced capacity-building, technical assistance and international cooperation to support developing countries, in particular small island developing States, to develop long-term monitoring of marine fish stocks, especially in relation to small-scale and artisanal fisheries,

Concerned that only a limited number of States have taken measures to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Recalling the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Particularly concerned that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing continues to constitute a serious threat to fish stocks and marine habitats and ecosystems, to the detriment of sustainable fisheries as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States,

Recognizing the importance of States' and relevant international fisheries organizations' expanding existing efforts to address illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing,

Concerned that some operators increasingly take advantage of the globalization of fishery markets to trade fishery products stemming from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and make economic profits from those operations, which constitutes an incentive for them to pursue their activities,

Recognizing that the effective deterrence and combating of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has significant financial and other resource implications for all States, in particular developing States,

[184] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

Recognizing also that fishing by vessels without nationality on the high seas undermines relevant objectives of the Convention and the Agreement to conserve and sustainably manage marine resources, and noting with concern that fishing vessels without nationality operate on the high seas without governance and oversight,

Recognizing further the role of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels in the concerted fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing,

Recognizing the duty provided in the Convention, the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas (the Compliance Agreement),[185] the Agreement and the Code for flag States to effectively exercise jurisdiction and control over fishing vessels flying their flag, and vessels flying their flag which provide support to fishing vessels, to ensure that the activities of such fishing and support vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

Noting the advisory opinion of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea on the request for an advisory opinion submitted by the Subregional Fisheries Commission, issued on 2 April 2015,

Recognizing the importance of adequately regulating, monitoring and controlling trans-shipment at sea, including on the high seas, to contribute to combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities,

Noting in this regard the Voluntary Guidelines for Trans-shipment as a new instrument within the framework of the Code,

Noting the convening of the seventh Global Fisheries Enforcement Training Workshop, to be held in Halifax, Canada, from 30 July to 4 August 2023, hosted by the International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-related Activities, in order to share information, experiences and technologies, foster coordination and improve skills among enforcement officials,

Noting also the obligation of all States, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention, to cooperate in the conservation and management of living marine resources, and recognizing the importance of coordination and cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and national levels in the areas, inter alia, of marine scientific research, data collection, information-sharing, capacity-building and training for the conservation, management and sustainable development of living marine resources,

Acknowledging the importance of ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction to sustainable development, promoting safety at sea and limiting human vulnerability to natural disasters, due to their use in weather and marine forecasts, fisheries management, tsunami forecasts and climate prediction, and expressing concern that most damage to ocean data buoys, such as moored buoys and tsunameters, frequently results from actions taken by some fishing operations which render the buoys inoperable,

Welcoming in this regard the adoption of measures by States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to protect ocean data buoy systems from the impacts of fishing activities,

Encouraging States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to cooperate to ensure that interactions between fishing operations and ocean data buoys on the high seas are minimized,

Recognizing the need for States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to continue to develop and implement, consistent with international law, effective port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to contribute to addressing overfishing, the critical need for cooperation with developing States to build their capacity, and the importance of cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

Recalling the entry into force of the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 2016,[186]

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[185] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39486.

[186] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2009/REP and Corr.1–3, appendix E.

Recognizing the efforts of States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement its resolution 46/215 of 20 December 1991, in which the General Assembly called for a global moratorium on all large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, including collaborative fisheries enforcement activities,

Concerned that marine pollution from all sources constitutes a serious threat to human health and safety, endangers fish stocks, marine biodiversity and marine and coastal habitats and has significant costs to local and national economies,

Recognizing that marine debris is a global transboundary pollution problem and that, owing to the many different types and sources of marine debris, different approaches to its prevention and removal are necessary, including the identification of such sources and environmentally sound techniques for its removal,

Recognizing also that the majority of marine debris, including plastics and microplastics, entering the seas and oceans is considered to originate from land-based sources,

Recognizing further that abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, including ghost fishing gear, is an increasingly pervasive and destructive form of marine debris causing adverse impacts on fish stocks, marine life and the marine environment and that urgent preventative action is needed, such as the marking of fishing gear as proposed by the Committee on Fisheries, as well as removal action,

Welcoming the decision of the United Nations Environment Assembly, in paragraph 1 of its resolution 5/14, to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, with the ambition of completing its work by the end of 2024,[187]

Acknowledging that anthropogenic underwater noise could have impacts on different marine species, which could also have consequent socioeconomic impacts, including on fishing, and recalling in this regard the discussions on the issue at the nineteenth meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea,[188]

Noting the continuing gaps in knowledge and lack of data with respect to anthropogenic underwater noise and its impacts, and welcoming in this respect that the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, at its thirty-fourth session, recognized the increased science-based knowledge on underwater anthropogenic noise and encouraged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to assess its possible impacts, including its socioeconomic consequences, on marine resources in collaboration with relevant international organizations such as the International Maritime Organization,

Reaffirming the importance of sustainable aquaculture to food security, recognizing that, as indicated in *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022*, aquaculture has already demonstrated its crucial role in global food security, with its production growing at 6.7 per cent per year on average since 1990, and recognizing the potential of aquaculture for further growth, but also that the enormity of the environmental challenges the sector must face and address as it intensifies production demands new sustainable aquaculture development strategies,

Noting in this regard that the Committee on Fisheries requested the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to quickly finalize ambitious guidelines for sustainable aquaculture,

Noting that the contribution of sustainable aquaculture to global fish supplies continues to respond to opportunities in developing countries to enhance local food security and nutrition and poverty alleviation and, together with the efforts of other aquaculture-producing countries, will make a significant contribution to meeting future demands in fish consumption, bearing in mind article 9 of the Code,

Noting in this regard the concern about the potential effects of genetically engineered aquatic fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks,

Recognizing the efforts made by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in regulating deep-sea fisheries, while still concerned that some deep-sea fishing activities in certain areas are being

[187] See United Nations Environment Programme, resolution UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

[188] See A/73/124.

carried out without the full implementation of relevant paragraphs of previous resolutions, representing a threat to vulnerable marine ecosystems,

Calling attention to the particular vulnerabilities of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities whose livelihoods, economic development and food security are heavily dependent on sustainable fisheries and will suffer disproportionately if sustainable fisheries are negatively affected,

Calling attention also to the circumstances affecting fisheries in many developing States, in particular African States and small island developing States, and recognizing the urgent need for capacity-building, including the transfer of marine technology and in particular fisheries- and aquaculture-related technology, to enhance the ability of such States to exercise their rights in order to realize the benefits from fisheries resources and fulfil their obligations under international instruments,

Noting the need to recognize and address the special role of women and the vulnerability of Indigenous and local communities and minorities in small-scale fisheries,

Recognizing the important contribution of women in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, as well as challenges faced by women in these sectors, including lack of access to social protection and unequal employment opportunities,

Noting in this regard the Santiago de Compostela Declaration for Equal Opportunities in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sectors adopted by participants at the International Conference of Women in Fisheries, in November 2018,

Recognizing the need to adopt, implement and enforce appropriate measures to minimize waste, by-catch and discards, including high-grading, loss of fishing gear and other factors that adversely affect the sustainability of fish stocks and ecosystems and, consequently, can also have harmful effects on the economies and food security of small island developing States, other developing coastal States and subsistence fishing communities,

Recognizing also the need to adopt and implement appropriate measures, consistent with the best available scientific information, to minimize by-catch of non-targeted species and juveniles through the effective management of fishing methods, including the use and design of fish aggregating devices, in order to mitigate adverse effects on fish stocks and ecosystems,

Recognizing further the need to further integrate ecosystem approaches into fisheries conservation and management and, more generally, the importance of applying ecosystem approaches to the management of human activities in the ocean, and noting in this regard the fifteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, focusing on the topic "Implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management", the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem,[189] the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to guidelines for the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and the importance of this approach to relevant provisions of the Agreement and the Code, as well as decision VII/11[190] and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Recognizing the economic and cultural importance of sharks in many countries, the biological importance of sharks in the marine ecosystem as key predatory species, the vulnerability of certain shark species to overexploitation, the fact that some are threatened with extinction, the need for measures to promote the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark populations and fisheries, and the relevance of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1999, in providing guidance on the development of such measures,

Welcoming in this regard the review by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, and its ongoing work in this regard,

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[189] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/3, annex.

[190] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex.

Noting with concern that basic data on shark stocks and harvests continue to be lacking and that not all regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have adopted conservation and management measures for directed shark fisheries and for the regulation of by-catch of sharks from other fisheries,

Welcoming science-based measures taken by States to conserve and sustainably manage sharks, and noting in this respect management measures taken by coastal States, including limits on catch or fishing effort, technical measures, including by-catch reduction measures, sanctuaries, closed seasons and areas and monitoring, control and surveillance,

Recalling the resolution entitled "Conservation and management of sharks"[191] and decisions on sharks and rays, as amended at the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, inter alia, the inclusion of additional species of sharks and rays in appendix II to that Convention,[192] and recalling also the ongoing work of the secretariat of that Convention, as well as other organizations, including the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on capacity-building to facilitate the implementation of requirements associated with such listings,

Recalling also that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, at its thirteenth session, held in Gandhinagar, India, from 17 to 22 February 2020, added three new species of sharks to those listed in the appendices to that Convention,[193] bringing the number of listed shark and ray species to 37 species,

Recalling further that the signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, at their third meeting, held in Monaco from 10 to 14 December 2018, added eight new species of sharks and rays to those listed in annex I to that Memorandum of Understanding and adopted a capacity-building strategy aimed at supporting signatories with the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and its conservation plan,

Noting with concern the continuing practice of the removal of fins from sharks, with the remainder of the carcass being discarded at sea,

Recognizing the importance of marine species occupying low trophic levels in the ecosystem and for food security, and the need to ensure their long-term sustainability,

Expressing concern over continued incidental mortality, in fishing operations, of seabirds, particularly albatrosses and petrels, as well as other marine species, including sharks, fin-fish species, marine mammals and marine turtles, while recognizing considerable efforts by States and through various regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to reduce incidental mortality as a result of by-catch,

Noting with concern the significant threat that invasive alien species, such as those carried and transferred by ballast water and by biofouling on ships, pose to marine ecosystems and resources,

Recognizing the importance of decent work and productive employment in the fishing sector, which is critical to sustainable livelihoods and food security,

Noting the ongoing work by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop guidance on social sustainability in fisheries and aquaculture value chains, in line with the recommendation of its Committee on Fisheries, and in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including industry and fish worker associations,

I
Achieving sustainable fisheries

1. *Reaffirms* the importance that it attaches to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas and the obligations of States to cooperate to this end, in

[191] See resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP18) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

[192] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

[193] Ibid., vol. 1651, No. 28395.

accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention, in particular the provisions on cooperation set out in Part V and Part VII, section 2, of the Convention, and where applicable, the Agreement;

2. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention, which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, taking into account the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in "The future we want",[194] States addressed the sustainable development of fisheries, recognized the significant contribution of fisheries to the three dimensions of sustainable development and stressed the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for food security and nutrition and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, and encourages States to implement the commitments made in "The future we want";

4. *Calls upon* States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1, including Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, recalling that some of its targets are to be met by 2020 and that the Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible;

5. *Reiterates*, in this regard, the call for action to be taken on an urgent basis to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development made in the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action";[195]

6. *Encourages* States to give due priority to the implementation of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[196] in relation to achieving sustainable fisheries, especially restoring depleted stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield on an urgent basis and, where possible, not later than 2015, and recalls that, in "The future we want", States committed themselves to intensify their efforts to meet that target and to urgently take the measures necessary to maintain or restore all stocks at least to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, with the aim of achieving those goals in the shortest time feasible, as determined by their biological characteristics, and in order to achieve this, to urgently develop and implement science-based management plans, including by reducing or suspending fishing catch and fishing effort commensurate with the status of the stock, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

7. *Recalls* the 2021 Declaration for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture, endorsed by the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, at its thirty-fourth session, to renew its commitment to the Code, and refocus priorities to secure the long-term sustainability and resilience of the sector;

8. *Encourages* States to promote the consumption of fish sourced from sustainably managed fisheries;

9. *Also encourages* States to consider sustainable aquaculture, consistent with the Code, as a means to promote diversification of the food supply and of income, while ensuring that aquaculture is conducted responsibly and adverse impacts on the environment are minimized;

10. *Reaffirms* its resolution 74/3 of 10 October 2019, by which it adopted the political declaration of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, which notes the importance of oceans, seas and marine resources to small island developing States and acknowledges their efforts to develop and implement strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources, and emphasizes the need for the full implementation of the Samoa Pathway;[197]

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[194] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[195] Resolution 71/312, annex.

[196] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[197] Resolution 69/15, annex.

11. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the impacts of global climate change and ocean acidification on coral reefs and other ecosystems relevant to fisheries, and urges States, either directly or through appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations or arrangements, to intensify efforts to assess and address, as appropriate, the impacts of global climate change and ocean acidification on the sustainability of fish stocks and the habitats that support them, in particular the most affected ones;

12. *Notes*, in this regard, the special report on the ocean and cryosphere in a changing climate of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and notes with concern the findings contained therein;

13. *Also notes* that the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, at its thirty-fourth session, commended the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on climate change in fisheries and aquaculture, and noted the progress made in supporting countries' adaptation, resilience and mitigation measures, underscoring the vulnerability of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and aquaculture-dependent communities;

14. *Further notes* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, commended the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on climate change in fisheries and aquaculture, encouraged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to increase knowledge and awareness on climate change impacts in fisheries and aquaculture and to provide guidance on adaptation and mitigation, highlighting the need for guidance on climate-resilient fisheries management, including by convening a workshop with regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and regional fisheries advisory bodies, and further encouraged the inclusion of climate change in the guidelines for sustainable aquaculture;

15. *Notes* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, commended the development of the Strategy on Climate Change 2022–2031 of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the new corporate framework for enhancing climate action and recommended the development of a set of actions by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations focused on climate-resilient fisheries and aquaculture;

16. *Also notes* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, appreciated the engagement of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations with, and the progress made under, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[198] and encouraged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to further foster the inclusion of aquatic foods in global climate forums, including through that Convention's ocean and climate change dialogue;

17. *Emphasizes* the obligations of flag States to discharge their responsibilities, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to ensure compliance by vessels flying their flag with the conservation and management measures adopted and in force with respect to fisheries resources on the high seas;

18. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to assess the risks and potential adverse impacts of climate change with respect to fish stocks, consider them when establishing conservation and management measures and identifying options to reduce risks and adverse impacts with respect to fisheries management and the health and resilience of marine ecosystems and enhance efforts to cooperate to collect, exchange and publish scientific and technical data and best practices related to the development and implementation of adaptation strategies, and to assist developing States in this regard, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change;

19. *Encourages* States and relevant organizations and arrangements to assess and consider the impacts of climate change on fisheries and aquaculture sectors in their policies and planning, as appropriate, in order to identify effective adaptation strategies to reduce the vulnerability of these sectors to climate change;

20. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply widely, in accordance with international law and the Code, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to the conservation, management and exploitation of fish stocks, and also calls upon States parties to the Agreement to implement fully the provisions of article 6 of the Agreement as a matter of priority;

21. *Urges* States to increase their reliance on scientific advice in developing, adopting and implementing conservation and management measures, and to increase their efforts, including through international cooperation, to

[198] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

promote science for conservation and management measures that apply, in accordance with international law, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, enhancing understanding of ecosystem approaches, in order to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the Strategy for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Capture Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as a framework for the improvement and understanding of fishery status and trends;

22. *Calls upon* all States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to apply stock-specific target and limit precautionary reference points, which, for target reference points, are intended to meet management objectives, as described in annex II to the Agreement and in the Code, to ensure that populations of harvested stocks and, where necessary, associated or dependent species are maintained at or restored to sustainable levels, and to use these reference points for triggering conservation and management action;

23. *Encourages* States, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish and implement rebuilding and recovery strategies and plans where a stock is identified as being overfished, which should include time frames and probabilities of recovery aimed at bringing the stock back at least to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield, and guided by scientific assessment and subjected to a periodic evaluation of progress;

24. *Also encourages* States to apply the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches in adopting and implementing conservation and management measures addressing, inter alia, by-catch, pollution and overfishing, and protecting habitats of specific concern, taking into account existing guidelines developed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

25. *Further encourages* States to enhance or develop observer programmes, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, in order to improve data collection on, inter alia, target and by-catch species, which could also assist monitoring, control and surveillance tools, and to take into account standards, forms of cooperation and other existing structures for such programmes as described in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

26. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, individually in line with their national legislation or through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to take steps as appropriate to ensure the safety of observers;

27. *Encourages* States to implement, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, accurate, complete, reliable and effective data collection and reporting of required data on catches, including by-catch and discards, and to review, validate and provide such data in support of scientific stock assessment and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, as well as monitoring and compliance activities, while noting the importance, particularly for developing countries, of improving the capacity to collect and report accurate, complete, reliable and effective data;

28. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to collect and, where appropriate, report to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations required catch and effort data, and fishery-related information, in a complete, accurate and timely way, including for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks within and beyond areas under national jurisdiction, discrete high seas fish stocks, and by-catch and discards; and, where they do not exist, to establish processes to strengthen data collection and reporting by members of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, including through regular reviews of member compliance with such obligations, and, when such obligations are not met, require the member concerned to rectify the problem, including through the preparation of plans of action with timelines;

29. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to cooperate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the implementation and further development of the Fisheries Resources Monitoring System initiative;

30. *Reaffirms* paragraph 10 of its resolution 61/105 of 8 December 2006, and calls upon States, including through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to urgently adopt and implement measures to fully implement the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks for directed and non-directed shark fisheries, based on the best available scientific information, through, inter alia, limits on catch or fishing effort, by requiring that vessels flying their flag collect and regularly report data on shark catches, including species-specific data, discards and landings, undertaking, including through international cooperation, comprehensive stock assessments of sharks, reducing shark by-catch and by-catch mortality and, where scientific information is

uncertain or inadequate, not increasing fishing effort in directed shark fisheries and urgently establishing science-based management measures to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of shark stocks and to prevent further declines of vulnerable or threatened shark stocks, and encourages the full utilization of dead sharks caught in the context of sustainably managed fisheries;

31. *Calls upon* States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of and compliance with existing regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and national measures that regulate shark fisheries and incidental catch of sharks, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins and, where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached;

32. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to regulate highly migratory species to strengthen or establish precautionary, science-based conservation and management measures, as appropriate, for sharks taken in fisheries within their convention areas consistent with the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks;

33. *Encourages* range States and regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to become signatories to and implement the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, and invites non-range States, intergovernmental organizations and international and national non-governmental organizations or other relevant bodies and entities to consider becoming cooperating partners;

34. *Encourages* States, as appropriate, to cooperate in establishing non-detriment findings for shared stocks of marine species listed in appendices I and II to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, consistent with the concepts and non-binding guiding principles contained in resolution Conf. 16.7 on non-detriment findings, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;

35. *Notes*, in this regard, the ongoing collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in raising awareness and building capacity on the implementation of that Convention in the fisheries sector, as a growing number of commercially exploited aquatic species are being included in appendix II to that Convention;

36. *Recalls* the fundamental role of sound scientific advice as the basis for decisions on fisheries management, and notes the ongoing collaboration of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora to provide the best scientific data and information;

37. *Urges* States to eliminate barriers to trade in fish and fisheries products which are not consistent with their rights and obligations under the World Trade Organization agreements, taking into account the importance of the trade in fish and fisheries products, particularly for developing countries;

38. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States committed themselves to observing the need to ensure access to fisheries and the importance of access to markets by subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fisherfolk and women fish workers, as well as Indigenous Peoples and their communities, particularly in developing countries, especially small island developing States;

39. *Notes* that the Committee on Fisheries encouraged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide capacity development and technical support to small-scale fisheries, including by addressing socioeconomics, gender dimensions, and post-harvest and data-collection challenges in the sector;

40. *Urges* States and relevant international and national organizations to provide for the participation of small-scale fishery stakeholders in related policy development and fisheries management strategies in order to achieve long-term sustainability for such fisheries, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources, and encourages States to consider promoting, as appropriate, participatory management schemes for small-scale fisheries in accordance with national laws, regulations and practices, as well as the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

41. *Welcomes* action taken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and a number of regional organizations to support the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication through regional plans of action, dedicated working groups and other initiatives;

42. *Encourages* States, either directly or through competent and appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations and arrangements, to analyse, as appropriate, the impact of fishing for marine species corresponding to low trophic levels;

43. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the initiation of further studies by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the impact of industrial fishing activities on species corresponding to low trophic levels;

44. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to assess and consider the potential risk and effects of genetically engineered fish species on the health and sustainability of wild fish stocks and on the biodiversity of the aquatic environment and to provide guidance, consistent with the Code, on managing risk and minimizing harmful impacts in this regard;

45. *Also invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in consultation with other relevant international organizations, including the International Maritime Organization, to promote awareness and cooperation to develop and strengthen capacity to prevent, minimize and mitigate the adverse impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity, including fish stocks;

46. *Calls upon* States to consider the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise from different activities in the marine environment and to address and mitigate such impacts, taking into account the best available scientific information, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, as appropriate;

II
Implementation of the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

47. *Welcomes* the most recent accession to the Agreement, and calls upon all States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement, that have not done so to ratify or accede to the Agreement and in the interim to consider applying it provisionally;

48. *Calls upon* States parties to the Agreement to effectively implement, as a matter of priority, the provisions of the Agreement through their national legislation and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

49. *Emphasizes* the importance of those provisions of the Agreement relating to bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation in enforcement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

50. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof, to inform, either directly or through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, all States whose vessels fish on the high seas in the same subregion or region of the form of identification issued by those States parties to officials duly authorized to carry out boarding and inspection functions in accordance with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement;

51. *Also urges* States parties to the Agreement, in accordance with article 21, paragraph 4, thereof, to designate an appropriate authority to receive notifications pursuant to article 21 and to give due publicity to such designation through the relevant subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement;

52. *Invites* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to adopt procedures for high seas boarding and inspection that are consistent with articles 21 and 22 of the Agreement, including, inter alia, those to ensure the safety of the crew and the inspectors;

53. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence over discrete high seas fish stocks, to adopt the measures necessary to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of such stocks in accordance with the Convention and consistent with the Code and the general principles set forth in the Agreement;

54. *Invites* States to assist developing States in enhancing their participation in regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, including by facilitating access to fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with article 25, paragraph 1 (b), of the Agreement, taking into account the need to ensure that such access benefits the developing States concerned and their nationals;

55. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement, directly or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to take into account the special requirements of developing States, including small island developing States as highlighted in the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, in giving effect to the duty to cooperate in the establishment of conservation and management measures for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including the need to ensure, where appropriate, in accordance with article 24, paragraph 2 (c), of the Agreement, that such measures do not transfer a disproportionate burden of conservation action onto developing States, and notes in this regard ongoing efforts to better develop a common understanding of this concept;

56. *Calls upon* States and international financial institutions and organizations of the United Nations system to provide assistance according to Part VII of the Agreement, including, if appropriate, the development of special financial mechanisms or instruments to assist developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fisheries resources, including developing their domestically flagged fishing fleet, value-added processing and the expansion of their economic base in the fishing industry, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of fisheries resources;

57. *Notes with appreciation,* in this regard, the launch of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement project of assistance, a three-year capacity-building programme funded through the Assistance Fund established under Part VII of the Agreement, to be implemented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division) in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

58. *Urges* States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, national institutions and non-governmental organizations, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial contributions to the Assistance Fund established under Part VII of the Agreement;

59. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Division to continue their efforts to publicize the availability of assistance through the Assistance Fund;

60. *Encourages* accelerated progress by States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, regarding the recommendations of the Review Conference on the Agreement, held in New York from 22 to 26 May 2006,[199] and the identification of emerging priorities;

61. *Encourages* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to consider implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the resumed Review Conference held in New York from 24 to 28 May 2010[200] and from 23 to 27 May 2016;[201]

62. *Acknowledges*, in particular, the commitments made at the resumed Review Conference held in 2016 to the continued implementation of the Agreement through the application of the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches to fisheries management, the urgent improvement of the status of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, strengthened interaction of the science-policy interface and the strong emphasis on collaboration, at all levels, for improved global fisheries outcomes;

63. *Recalls* that the resumed Review Conference agreed to keep the Agreement under review through the resumption of the Review Conference at a date not earlier than 2020, notes the agreement at the fourteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement that the Review Conference should be resumed in 2021, and takes note of the decision of States parties to the Agreement, through a consultation by correspondence among States

[199] See A/CONF.210/2006/15, annex.

[200] See A/CONF.210/2010/7, annex.

[201] See A/CONF.210/2016/5, annex.

parties to the Agreement, to postpone the resumption of the Review Conference on the Agreement to 2023, to invite the General Assembly to take note of the decision and to take any appropriate subsequent steps;

64. *Recalls* paragraph 58 of resolution 76/71, and requests the Secretary-General to resume the Review Conference, convened pursuant to article 36 of the Agreement, in New York from 22 to 26 May 2023, and to render the necessary assistance and provide such services as may be required for the resumption of the Review Conference;

65. *Encourages* wide participation in the resumed Review Conference, in accordance with article 36 of the Agreement;

66. *Recalls its request*, in paragraph 60 of resolution 74/18 of 10 December 2019, that the Secretary-General submit to the resumed Review Conference an updated report, prepared in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and with the assistance of an expert consultant to be hired by the Division to provide information and analysis on relevant technical and scientific issues to be covered in the report, to assist the Review Conference in discharging its mandate under article 36, paragraph 2, of the Agreement, and in this regard also reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to develop and circulate to States and to regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in a timely manner a voluntary questionnaire regarding the recommendations made by the Review Conference in 2016, taking into account the specific guidance proposed at the fifteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement in 2022;

67. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of resolution 56/13 of 28 November 2001 and the recommendation of the resumed Review Conference in 2016 that the informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement be dedicated, on an annual basis, to the consideration of specific issues arising from the implementation of the Agreement, with a view to improving understanding, sharing experiences and identifying best practices for the consideration of States parties, as well as the General Assembly and the Review Conference;

68. *Takes note* of the report of the fifteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, focusing on the topic "Implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries management";[202]

69. *Recalls its request*, in paragraph 63 of resolution 76/71, to the Secretary-General to convene the sixteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, for two days in the first half of 2023, to serve as a further preparatory meeting for the resumed Review Conference in 2023;

70. *Encourages* greater participation, including by competent international organizations, at the forthcoming sixteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement;

71. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite States parties to the Agreement and, as observers, States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement not parties to the Agreement, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant organizations, bodies, funds and programmes within the United Nations system, the secretariats of relevant organizations and conventions and other relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, in particular subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and related regional intergovernmental marine science organizations, and relevant non-governmental organizations, in accordance with past practice, to attend the sixteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, while relevant scientific institutions may request an invitation to participate in the consultations as observers;

72. *Invites* the chairperson of the informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement to circulate widely, through the Secretariat, an informal summary of the discussions at the sixteenth round;

73. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the seventeenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement for two days in 2024;

74. *Reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations initiate arrangements with States for the collection and dissemination of data on fishing on the high seas by vessels flying their flag at the subregional and regional levels where no such arrangements exist;

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[202] Document ICSP15/UNFSA/ INF.3. Available at www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/fish_stocks_agreement_states_parties.htm.

75. *Also reaffirms its request* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations revise its global fisheries statistics database to provide information on straddling fish stocks, highly migratory fish stocks and discrete high seas fish stocks on the basis of where the catch is taken;

76. *Recalls* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-third session, emphasized, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the need to ensure comparability and consistency of reporting indicators at global, regional and national levels, while minimizing the burden on its members;[203]

77. *Recognizes* that the Review Conference is the competent intergovernmental forum for assessing the effectiveness of the Agreement by reviewing its implementation;

III
Related fisheries instruments

78. *Emphasizes* the importance of the effective implementation of the provisions of the Compliance Agreement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

79. *Notes,* in this regard, the release by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the study of the implementation of the Compliance Agreement[204] and the call by the Committee on Fisheries at its thirty-fifth session to consider options to strengthen effective implementation and enforcement;

80. *Calls upon* all States and other entities referred to in article X, paragraph 1, of the Compliance Agreement that have not yet become parties to that Agreement to do so as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to consider applying it provisionally;

81. *Urges* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to implement and promote the application of the Code within their areas of competence;

82. *Urges* States to develop and implement, as a matter of priority, national and, as appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effect the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

83. *Encourages* States, in this regard, to maintain their commitment in reporting on their implementation of the Code, reiterates the importance of responding to the web-based questionnaire of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for monitoring the implementation of the Code and the international plans of action and strategies, and notes that the information collected could also be relevant to the implementation of related targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

84. *Recalls* the call by the Ministerial Conference on Fishing Vessel Safety and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, held in October 2019 in Torremolinos, Spain, to those States that have not yet become parties to the Cape Town Agreement to consider doing so by the tenth anniversary of its adoption on 11 October 2022;

85. *Encourages,* in this regard, States to consider signing, ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977;

86. *Notes* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, welcomed the capacity-building work on decent working conditions and safety at sea of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with an emphasis on reducing accidents and fatalities among small-scale fishers, fishing vessel safety standards and the promotion of insurance and social protection in fisheries, and requested the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to increase its support to developing countries on fishing safety matters and to take a leading role in the establishment of a repository for fisher safety data and accident and mortality information;

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[203] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2019/23.

[204] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document COFI/2022/SBD.19.

IV
Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing

87. *Emphasizes once again its serious concern* that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing remains one of the greatest threats to fish stocks and marine ecosystems and continues to have serious and major implications for the conservation and management of ocean resources, as well as the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States, and renews its call upon States to comply fully with all existing obligations and to combat such fishing and urgently to take all steps necessary to implement the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

88. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States acknowledged that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing deprive many countries of a crucial natural resource and remain a persistent threat to their sustainable development and recommitted to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing as advanced in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and to prevent and combat those practices, including by developing and implementing national and regional action plans in accordance with the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, implementing, in accordance with international law, effective and coordinated measures by coastal States, flag States, port States, chartering nations and the States of nationality of the beneficial owners and others who support or engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by identifying vessels engaged in such fishing and by depriving offenders of the benefits accruing from it, as well as by cooperating with developing countries to systematically identify needs and build capacity, including support for monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement systems;

89. *Notes with satisfaction* the development of an increasing number of national plans of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider developing such plans;

90. *Urges* flag States to strengthen effective jurisdiction and control over vessels flying their flag, and to exercise due diligence, including by developing or amending national rules and regulations, where needed, in order to ensure that such vessels do not engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, while reaffirming the importance, under international law, including as reflected in the Convention, of the responsibilities of flag States regarding fishing vessels flying their flag, including with respect to safety at sea and labour conditions on fishing vessels;

91. *Urges* States to effectively exercise jurisdiction and control over their nationals, including beneficial owners, and vessels flying their flag, in order to prevent and deter them from engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities or supporting vessels engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, including those vessels listed by regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements as engaged in those activities, and to facilitate mutual assistance to ensure that such actions can be investigated and proper sanctions imposed;

92. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to establish penalties for non-compliance by vessels involved in fishing or fishing-related activities and their nationals, as appropriate, in accordance with applicable national law and consistent with international law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits from their illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities;

93. *Urges* States to take effective measures, at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, to deter the activities, including illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, of any vessel which undermines conservation and management measures that have been adopted by subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with international law;

94. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas or in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, unless duly authorized by the authorities of the States concerned and in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization, and to take specific measures, including deterring the reflagging of vessels by their nationals, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

95. *Urges* States, individually and collectively through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop appropriate processes to assess the performance of States with respect to implementing the obligations regarding fishing vessels flying their flag set out in relevant international instruments;

96. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen, where necessary, the international legal framework for intergovernmental cooperation, in particular at the subregional and regional levels, in the management of fish stocks and in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in a manner consistent with international law, and for States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities;

97. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to further coordinate measures for combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, such as through the development of a common list of vessels identified as engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing or the mutual recognition of the illegal, unreported and unregulated vessel lists established by each organization or arrangement;

98. *Reaffirms its call upon* States to take all necessary measures consistent with international law, without prejudice to a State's sovereignty over ports in its territory and to reasons of force majeure or distress, including the prohibition of vessels from accessing their ports followed by a report to the flag State concerned, when there is clear evidence that they are or have been engaged in or have supported illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, or when they refuse to give information either on the origin of the catch or on the authorization under which the catch has been made;

99. *Reaffirms* paragraph 53 of its resolution 64/72 of 4 December 2009 with regard to eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by vessels flying "flags of convenience" and requiring that a "genuine link" be established between States and fishing vessels flying their flags, and urges States operating open registry to effectively control all fishing vessels flying their flag, as required by international law, or otherwise stop open registry for fishing vessels;

100. *Notes* the challenges posed by vessels determined under international law to be without nationality that are fishing, including conducting fishing-related activities, on the high seas and that such vessels operate without governance and oversight, undermine relevant legal frameworks and are engaging in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities as defined in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and encourages States to take necessary measures where appropriate, consistent with international law, in order to prevent and deter vessels without nationality from engaging in or supporting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, such as enacting domestic legislation, including on enforcement, sharing information and prohibiting the landing and preventing trans-shipment, at sea or in port, of fish and fish products by such vessels;

101. *Encourages* States, either directly or through competent and appropriate subregional, regional or global organizations and arrangements, to consider adopting rules, consistent with international law, to ensure that chartering arrangements and practices related to fishing vessels enable compliance with and enforcement of relevant conservation and management measures, so as not to undermine efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

102. *Recognizes* the need for enhanced port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and urges States to cooperate, in particular at the regional level and through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt all necessary port measures, consistent with international law taking into account article 23 of the Agreement, and to further promote the development and application of standards at the regional level;

103. *Welcomes* the recent ratifications of and accessions to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, and encourages States and regional economic integration organizations that have not yet done so to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to that Agreement, noting the importance of major port States becoming parties at their earliest convenience;

104. *Acknowledges*, in this regard, the convening of the third meeting of the parties to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, which was hosted by the European Union and held virtually owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, from 31 May to 4 June 2021, and which, inter alia, discussed the results of the questionnaire for the review and assessment of the effectiveness of that Agreement, endorsed a pilot phase of its Global Information Exchange System, and established the Strategy Ad Hoc Working Group under that Agreement;

105. *Notes* the ongoing capacity-development programme of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations aimed at facilitating and supporting the implementation of the Agreement on Port State Measures to

Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and related instruments, which contributes to the development of national capacity of both parties and non-parties, including the strengthening of the institutional, operational and enforcement capacity of developing States with a view to maximizing the benefits of its implementation, and which, as of 1 July 2022, delivered activities in 55 countries;

106. *Also notes* the important role that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Maritime Organization and International Labour Organization Joint Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters, including on measures to attain safe, healthy and fair working conditions and improve safety at sea, plays in engaging multiple agencies and stakeholders, and notes that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, and the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization, at its 344th session,[205] endorsed the revised terms of reference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Maritime Organization and International Labour Organization Joint Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters;

107. *Encourages* States, with respect to vessels flying their flag, and port States, to make every effort to share data on landings and catch quotas, and in this regard encourages regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider developing open databases containing such data for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of fisheries management;

108. *Notes* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, welcomed the preparation by the secretariat of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of additional guidance documents on methodologies to estimate the magnitude of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and on the use of indicators to evaluate and track performance in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and looked forward to the new guidance document on estimating impacts of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

109. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure that vessels flying their flag do not engage in the trans-shipment of fish caught by fishing vessels engaged in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, through adequate regulation, monitoring and control of trans-shipment of fish at sea, including through additional national measures applicable to vessels flying their flag to prevent such trans-shipment;

110. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt and implement internationally agreed market-related measures in accordance with international law, including principles, rights and obligations established in World Trade Organization agreements, as called for in the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;

111. *Encourages* work to increase awareness of the Voluntary Guidelines for Catch Documentation Schemes,[206] and encourages States and relevant stakeholders to implement these Guidelines when developing catch documentation schemes and to use them as a reference in related activities, with special attention to the prevention, deterrence and elimination of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

112. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the publication by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of the technical guidelines entitled *Understanding and Implementing Catch Documentation Schemes: A Guide for National Authorities*, in February 2022;

113. *Encourages* information-sharing regarding emerging market- and trade-related measures by States and other relevant actors with appropriate international forums, given the potential implications of these measures for all States, consistent with the established plan of work of the Committee on Fisheries, and taking into account the Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fish Trade of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

114. *Acknowledges* the development of participatory surveillance activities at sea involving fishing communities in West Africa as a cost-effective way of detecting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

115. *Notes* the concern expressed by the Committee on Fisheries at the proliferation of private standards and ecolabelling schemes potentially leading to the creation of trade barriers and restrictions, and also notes the work by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop an evaluation framework to assess the

[205] International Labour Organization, document GB.344/Decisions.

[206] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C/2017/REP, appendix C.

conformity of public and private ecolabelling schemes through the Guidelines for the Ecolabelling of Fish and Fishery Products from Marine Capture Fisheries;

116. *Also notes* the concerns about possible connections between transnational organized crime and illegal fishing in certain regions of the world, and encourages States, including through the appropriate international forums and organizations, to study the causes and methods of and contributing factors to illegal fishing to increase knowledge and understanding of those possible connections, and to make the findings publicly available, and in this regard takes note of the study issued by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on transnational organized crime in the fishing industry, bearing in mind the distinct legal regimes and remedies under international law applicable to illegal fishing and transnational organized crime;

V
Monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement

117. *Calls upon* States, in accordance with international law, to strengthen the implementation of or, where they do not exist, adopt comprehensive monitoring, control and surveillance measures and compliance and enforcement schemes individually and within those regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in which they participate, in order to provide an appropriate framework for promoting compliance with agreed conservation and management measures, and further urges enhanced coordination among all relevant States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in these efforts;

118. *Welcomes* the fact that the Committee on Fisheries has urged its members to start implementing the Voluntary Guidelines for Flag State Performance[207] as soon as possible, and urges all flag States to implement those Guidelines as soon as possible, including, as a first step, by carrying out a voluntary assessment;

119. *Encourages* further work by competent international organizations, including subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop guidelines on flag State control of fishing vessels;

120. *Urges* States, individually and through relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to establish mandatory vessel monitoring, control and surveillance systems, in particular to require that vessel monitoring systems be carried by all vessels fishing on the high seas as soon as practicable, recalling that, in paragraph 62 of resolution 63/112 of 5 December 2008, it urged that large-scale fishing vessels be required to carry vessel monitoring systems no later than December 2008, and to share information on fisheries enforcement matters;

121. *Notes* the call by the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to initiate a technical workshop for its members to discuss issues related to vessel tracking, subject to external funding;

122. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to strengthen or establish, consistent with national and international law, positive or negative lists of vessels fishing within the areas covered by relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to promote compliance with conservation and management measures and to identify products from illegal, unreported and unregulated catches, and encourages improved coordination among all States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in sharing and using this information, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

123. *Encourages* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in cooperation with States, regional economic integration organizations, the International Maritime Organization and, as appropriate, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to expedite efforts to develop and manage a comprehensive global record of fishing vessels, refrigerated transport vessels and supply vessels, including with a unique vessel identifier system, using, as a first step, the International Maritime Organization Ship Identification Number Scheme for fishing vessels of 100 gross tonnage and above, adopted by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization in its resolution A.1078(28) of 4 December 2013;

124. *Welcomes* the continued development of the Global Record of Fishing Vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, including its efforts to

[207] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document COFI/2014/4.2/Rev.1, appendix II.

keep it cost-effective, and encourages States, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide the necessary data and regular updates to the Global Record;

125. *Encourages*, in this regard, broader participation in the Global Record, reiterating the importance for States to upload and routinely update information on their fleets and for States to use all available vessel data, including from the Global Integrated Shipping Information System platform, when providing their vessel data to the Global Record;

126. *Welcomes* the decision by the International Maritime Organization, in resolution A.1117(30) of 6 December 2017, to extend, beyond the first phase of the Global Record, the International Maritime Organization Ship Identification Number Scheme to fishing vessels of steel and non-steel hull construction and to all motorized inboard fishing vessels of less than 100 gross tonnage down to a size limit of 12 metres in length overall authorized to operate outside waters under the national jurisdiction of the flag State, and welcomes the fact that several regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have made provisions for the International Maritime Organization number to be compulsory in their convention areas for all eligible vessels, and encourages those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements which have not yet done so to do the same;

127. *Requests* States and relevant international bodies to develop, in accordance with international law, more effective measures to trace fish and fishery products to enable importing States to identify fish or fishery products caught in a manner that undermines international conservation and management measures agreed in accordance with international law, taking into account the special requirements of developing States and the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement, and at the same time to recognize the importance of market access, in accordance with provisions 11.2.4, 11.2.5 and 11.2.6 of the Code, for fish and fishery products caught in a manner that is in conformity with such international measures;

128. *Requests* States to take the necessary measures, consistent with international law, to help to prevent fish and fishery products caught in a manner that undermines applicable conservation and management measures adopted in accordance with international law from entering international trade;

129. *Encourages* States to establish and undertake cooperative surveillance and enforcement activities in accordance with international law to strengthen and enhance efforts to ensure compliance with conservation and management measures, and prevent and deter illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;

130. *Urges* States, directly and through regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to develop and adopt effective monitoring, control and surveillance measures for trans-shipment, as appropriate, in particular at-sea trans-shipment, including on the high seas, in order to, inter alia, monitor compliance, to collect and verify fisheries data, and to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, in accordance with international law;

131. *Takes note*, in this regard, that the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, at its thirty-fourth session, expressed concern on the risks of inadequately regulated, controlled and monitored trans-shipment in relation to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and welcomed the in-depth global study on trans-shipment by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

132. *Notes*, in this regard, the adoption on 7 July 2022 of the Voluntary Guidelines for Trans-shipment by the Technical Consultation on Voluntary Guidelines for Trans-shipment of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, held from 30 May to 3 June 2022, which were endorsed by the Committee on Fisheries at its thirty-fifth session, and calls for their implementation, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

133. *Expresses its appreciation* for financial contributions from States to improve the capacity of the existing voluntary International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-related Activities, and encourages States to join and actively participate in the Network and to consider supporting, when appropriate, its transformation in accordance with international law into an international unit with dedicated resources to further assist Network members, taking into account the forms of cooperation with developing States as set out in article 25 of the Agreement;

VI
Fishing overcapacity

134. *Calls upon* States to commit themselves to urgently reducing the capacity of the world's fishing fleets to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, through the establishment of target levels and plans or other appropriate mechanisms for ongoing capacity assessment, while avoiding the transfer of fishing capacity to other fisheries or areas in a manner that undermines the sustainable management of fish stocks, including those areas where fish stocks are overexploited or in a depleted condition, and recognizing in this context the legitimate rights of developing States to develop their fisheries for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks consistent with article 25 of the Agreement, article 5 of the Code and paragraph 10 of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

135. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to develop and implement a range of measures to adjust fishing intensity, including fishing capacity where relevant, to levels commensurate with the sustainability of fish stocks, and including capacity assessment and capacity management plans providing incentives for voluntary reduction, which take into account all aspects that contribute to fishing capacity, considering, inter alia, engine power, fishing gear technology, fish detection technology and storage space, and also to improve transparency on fishing capacity, including by identifying, sharing and publicizing relevant information in this regard, subject to confidentiality requirements;

136. *Reiterates its call upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to ensure that the urgent actions required in the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity are undertaken expeditiously and that its implementation is facilitated without delay;

137. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to report on the state of progress in the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity, as provided for in paragraph 48 of the Plan of Action;

138. *Calls upon* States, individually and, as appropriate, through subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to regulate highly migratory species, urgently to address global fishing capacity for tunas, inter alia, in a way that recognizes the legitimate rights of developing States, in particular small island developing States, to participate in and benefit from such fisheries, taking into account the recommendations of the 2010 Joint Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations International Workshop on RFMO Management of Tuna Fisheries, held in Brisbane, Australia, and the recommendations of the 2011 third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

139. *Encourages* those States which are cooperating to establish subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, taking into account the best scientific information available as well as ecosystem approaches and the precautionary approach, to exercise voluntary restraint of fishing effort levels in those areas that will come under the regulation of the future organizations and arrangements until adequate regional conservation and management measures are adopted and implemented, taking into account the need to ensure the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the relevant fish stocks and to prevent significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

140. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States reaffirmed their commitment in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and overcapacity, taking into account the importance of that sector to developing countries, reiterated their commitment to conclude multilateral disciplines on fisheries subsidies that would give effect to the mandates of the World Trade Organization Doha Development Agenda[208] and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration to strengthen disciplines on subsidies in the fisheries sector, including through the prohibition of certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation, taking into account the importance of the sector to development priorities, poverty reduction and livelihood and food security concerns, and encouraged one another to further improve the transparency and reporting of existing fisheries subsidies programmes through the World Trade Organization and, given the state of fisheries resources, and without prejudicing the Doha and Hong Kong ministerial mandates on fisheries subsidies or the need

[208] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

to conclude those negotiations, to eliminate subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing and to refrain from introducing new such subsidies or from extending or enhancing existing ones;

141. *Notes* the adoption on 17 June 2022 of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies by the World Trade Organization,[209] and the establishment of the voluntary Fisheries Funding Mechanism of the World Trade Organization, which is envisioned to support developing and least-developed countries in implementing that Agreement, and notes that the Agreement is open for acceptance;

142. *Also notes* that the World Trade Organization shall continue negotiations on the outstanding issues on fisheries subsidies with a view to making recommendations at its thirteenth Ministerial Conference for additional provisions that would achieve a comprehensive agreement on fisheries subsidies, including through further disciplines on certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing States and least developed States should be an integral part of these negotiations;

VII
Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing

143. *Expresses concern* that, despite the adoption of General Assembly resolution 46/215, the practice of large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing still exists and remains a threat to living marine resources;

144. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the provisions of resolution 46/215 and subsequent resolutions on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing in order to eliminate the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets in all seas and oceans, which means that efforts to implement resolution 46/215 should not result in the transfer to other parts of the world of drift nets that contravene the resolution;

145. *Also urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to adopt effective measures, or strengthen existing measures, to implement and enforce the present global moratorium on the use of large-scale pelagic drift nets on the high seas, and calls upon States to ensure that vessels flying their flag that are duly authorized to use large-scale drift nets in waters under their national jurisdiction do not use such gear for fishing while on the high seas;

VIII
Fisheries by-catch and discards

146. *Urges* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations that have not done so to take action, including with consideration of the interests of developing coastal States and, as appropriate, subsistence fishing communities, to minimize by-catch, as well as to reduce or eliminate catch by lost or abandoned gear, fish discards and post-harvest losses, including of juvenile fish, consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code, and in particular to consider measures including, as appropriate, technical measures related to fish size, mesh size or gear, discards, closed seasons and areas and zones reserved for selected fisheries, particularly artisanal fisheries, the establishment of mechanisms for communicating information on areas of high concentration of juvenile fish, taking into account the importance of ensuring the confidentiality of such information, and support for studies and research that will minimize by-catch of juvenile fish, and to ensure that these measures are implemented so as to optimize their effectiveness;

147. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to ensure proper implementation and enforcement of the measures that they have taken with regard to by-catch and discards;

148. *Welcomes* the commitment of States in "The future we want" to enhance action to manage by-catch, discards and other adverse ecosystem impacts from fisheries, including by eliminating destructive fishing practices, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

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[209] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(22)/33, annex.

149. *Calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to further study, develop and adopt effective management measures, taking into account the best available scientific information on fishing methods, including fish aggregating devices, to minimize by-catch;

150. *Also calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to collect the necessary data in order to evaluate and closely monitor the use of large-scale fish aggregating devices and other devices, as appropriate, and their effects on tuna resources and tuna behaviour and associated and dependent species, to improve management procedures to monitor the number, type and use of such devices and to mitigate possible negative effects on the ecosystem, including on juveniles and the incidental by-catch of non-target species, particularly sharks and turtles, notes in this regard the measures adopted by different regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and encourages regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to continue to work on data collection, evaluation and monitoring of such devices;

151. *Notes*, in this regard, that some regional fisheries management organizations, including the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, have established their own working groups to assess the use and impact of large-scale fish aggregating devices;

152. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to promote, as appropriate, the use of environmentally friendly fish aggregating devices, while ensuring compliance with measures that they have taken relating to such devices;

153. *Urgently calls upon* States, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and, where appropriate, other relevant international organizations to develop and implement effective management measures to reduce the incidence of catch and discards of non-target species, including the utilization of selective fishing gear, where appropriate, and to take appropriate measures to minimize waste, and welcomes in this regard the support of the Committee on Fisheries for the development of a technical guideline of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations addressing the causes of and remedies to food losses and waste;

154. *Calls upon* States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to adopt or improve measures to assess the impact of their fisheries on species caught as by-catch and to improve the comprehensiveness and accuracy of information and reporting on incidental catch of species caught as by-catch, including through adequate observer coverage and the use of modern technologies, such as electronic monitoring, and to provide assistance to developing States to meet data-collection and reporting obligations;

155. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to strengthen or establish data-collection programmes to obtain reliable species-specific estimates of shark, marine turtle, fin-fish, marine mammal and seabird by-catch, and to promote further research on selective fishing gear and practices and on the use of appropriate by-catch mitigation measures;

156. *Encourages* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to coordinate in the development and implementation of clear and standardized by-catch data-collection and reporting protocols for non-target species, in particular endangered, threatened and protected species, taking into account best-practice advice from appropriate international organizations and arrangements, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels;[210]

157. *Encourages* States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (b), of the Agreement to give due consideration to participation, as appropriate, in subregional and regional instruments and organizations with mandates to conserve non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations;

158. *Encourages* States to strengthen, if necessary, the capacity of those subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate to ensure the adequate conservation of non-target species taken incidentally in fishing operations, taking into consideration best practices for non-target species management, and to expedite their ongoing efforts in this regard;

159. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements urgently to implement, as appropriate, the measures recommended in the 2004 Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in

[210] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2258, No. 40228.

Fishing Operations and the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in order to prevent the decline of sea turtles and seabird populations by minimizing by-catch and increasing post-release survival in their fisheries, including through research and development of gear and bait alternatives, promoting the use of available by-catch mitigation technology, and establishing and strengthening data-collection programmes to obtain standardized information to develop reliable estimates of the by-catch of these species;

160. *Urges* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to implement the International Guidelines on Bycatch Management and Reduction of Discards of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;[211]

161. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to continue to take urgent action to reduce the by-catch of seabirds, including albatrosses and petrels, in fisheries by adopting and implementing conservation measures consistent with the 2009 best practices technical guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to support the implementation of the International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries and taking into account the work of the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels and of organizations such as the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources;

IX
Subregional and regional cooperation

162. *Urges* coastal States and States fishing on the high seas, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and other relevant instruments, to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to ensure the effective conservation and management of such stocks;

163. *Urges* States fishing for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks on the high seas, and relevant coastal States, where a subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement has the competence to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to give effect to their duty to cooperate by becoming members of such an organization or participants in such an arrangement, or by agreeing to apply the conservation and management measures established by such an organization or arrangement, or to otherwise ensure that no vessel flying their flag is authorized to access the fisheries resources to which regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements or conservation and management measures established by such organizations or arrangements apply;

164. *Invites*, in this regard, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that all States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participants in such arrangements, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Code, provided they have shown their interest in and capacity to comply with the measures adopted by the regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements concerned, including their willingness to effectively exercise flag State control, while recognizing the need to enhance the capacity of developing States in this regard;

165. *Encourages* relevant coastal States and States fishing on the high seas for a straddling fish stock or a highly migratory fish stock, where there is no subregional or regional fisheries management organization or arrangement to establish conservation and management measures for such stocks, to cooperate to establish such an organization or enter into another appropriate arrangement to ensure the conservation and management of such stocks, and to participate in the work of the organization or arrangement;

166. *Recalls* the entry into force, on 25 June 2021, of the Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean, and notes the convening of the inaugural Conference of the Parties to the Agreement from 23 to 25 November 2022 in Incheon, Republic of Korea;

167. *Urges* signatory States and other States whose vessels fish within the area of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean[212] for fishery resources

[211] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document FIRO/R957 (En), appendix E.

[212] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2221, No. 39489.

covered by that Convention to become parties to that Convention as a matter of priority and, in the interim, to ensure that vessels flying their flags fully comply with the measures adopted;

168. *Encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to, acceptances and approvals of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement;[213]

169. *Also encourages* further ratifications of, accessions to, acceptances and approvals of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean;[214]

170. *Further encourages* further accessions to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries Resources in the North Pacific Ocean, and notes the ongoing efforts by the North Pacific Fisheries Commission to develop and implement conservation and management measures and to strengthen cooperation to eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing within the area of that Convention;

171. *Welcomes* the endorsement of the Agreement for the Establishment of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, as amended, by the Commission at its thirty-eighth session, held in Rome from 19 to 24 May 2014, and urges those Contracting Parties to the Commission that need to accept the amended Agreement to do so with a view to its early entry into force;

172. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the members of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission to strengthen the functioning of the Commission so that it can more effectively discharge its mandate, and invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide members of the Commission with the necessary assistance to this end;

173. *Encourages* signatory States and States having a real interest to become parties to the Convention for the Strengthening of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Established by the 1949 Convention between the United States of America and the Republic of Costa Rica;

174. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, through its Fisheries Consultative Forum, to address common problems on fisheries management and development in the South-East Asian region;

175. *Urges* further efforts by regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as a matter of priority, in accordance with international law, to strengthen and modernize their mandates and the measures adopted by such organizations or arrangements, and to implement modern approaches to fisheries management, as reflected in the Agreement and other relevant international instruments, relying on the best scientific information available and application of the precautionary approach and incorporating an ecosystem approach to fisheries management and biodiversity considerations, including the conservation and management of ecologically related and dependent species and protection of their habitats, where these aspects are lacking, to ensure that they effectively contribute to the long-term conservation and management and sustainable use of living marine resources, and welcomes those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have taken steps in this direction;

176. *Calls upon* regional fisheries management organizations with the competence to conserve and manage highly migratory fish stocks that have not yet adopted effective conservation and management measures in line with the best scientific information available to conserve and manage stocks falling under their mandate to do so urgently;

177. *Urges* States to strengthen and enhance cooperation among existing and developing regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in which they participate, including increased communication and further coordination of measures, such as through the holding of joint consultations, and to strengthen integration, coordination and cooperation by such regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with other relevant fisheries organizations, regional seas arrangements and other relevant international organizations;

178. *Notes*, in this regard, the enhanced cooperation between the OSPAR Commission established by the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic[215] and the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission;

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[213] Ibid., vol. 2835, No. 49647.

[214] Ibid., vol. 2899, No. 50553.

[215] Ibid., vol. 2354, No. 42279.

179. *Urges* the five regional fisheries management organizations with competence to manage highly migratory species to continue to take measures to implement the Course of Actions adopted at the second joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to consider the recommendations of the third joint meeting of tuna regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

180. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to manage straddling fish stocks to share experiences and good practices, for example by considering organizing joint meetings, where appropriate;

181. *Invites* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with competence to manage deep-sea fisheries to share experiences and good practices, for example, by considering organizing joint meetings, where appropriate, and, in this regard, notes with appreciation the convening of the two-day workshop held on 2 and 3 August 2022 to discuss the implementation of paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123, addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks;

182. *Urges* regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to improve transparency and to ensure that their decision-making processes are fair and transparent and facilitate the adoption of conservation and management measures in a timely and effective manner, including considering provisions for effective voting and objection procedures, where appropriate, to rely on the best scientific information available, incorporate the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, and address participatory rights, including through, inter alia, the development of transparent criteria for allocating fishing opportunities which reflects, where appropriate, the relevant provisions of the Agreement, taking due account, inter alia, of the status of the relevant stocks and the respective interests in the fishery;

183. *Recognizes* that performance reviews of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have proven to be an effective tool for strengthening the performance of such organizations and arrangements, and are critical to improve the sustainability of fish stocks covered by such organizations and arrangements and notes that the fourteenth round of informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement focused on the topic "Performance reviews of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements";[216]

184. *Welcomes* the fact that a number of regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements have completed performance reviews, and encourages the implementation, as appropriate, of the recommendations of their respective reviews as a matter of priority;

185. *Urges* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have not done so, to undertake, on an urgent basis, performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, initiated either by the organization or arrangement itself or with external partners, including in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, using transparent criteria based on the provisions of the Agreement and other relevant instruments, and taking into account the best practices of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements and, as appropriate, any set of criteria developed by States or other regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, and encourages that such performance reviews include some element of independent evaluation and propose means for improving the functioning of the regional fisheries management organization or arrangement, as appropriate;

186. *Calls upon* States, through their participation in regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to undertake performance reviews of those regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements on a regular basis, to make the results publicly available, to implement the recommendations of such reviews and to strengthen the comprehensiveness of those reviews over time, as necessary;

187. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States recognized the need for transparency and accountability in fisheries management by regional fisheries management organizations and the efforts already made by those regional fisheries management organizations that had undertaken independent performance reviews, called upon all regional fisheries management organizations to regularly undertake such reviews and make the results publicly available,

[216] See document ICSP14/UNFSA/ INF.3. Available at https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_ agreements/ICSP14/ReportICSP14.pdf.

encouraged implementation of the recommendations of such reviews and recommended that the comprehensiveness of those reviews be strengthened over time, as necessary;

188. *Urges* States to cooperate, taking into account those performance reviews, to develop best-practice guidelines for regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and to apply, to the extent possible, those guidelines to organizations and arrangements in which they participate;

189. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to recognize the importance and role of small-scale, artisanal and subsistence fisheries and to support their long-term environmental, economic and social sustainability;

190. *Encourages* the development of regional guidelines for States to use in establishing sanctions for non-compliance by vessels flying their flag and by their nationals, to be applied in accordance with national law, that are adequate in severity for effectively securing compliance, deterring further violations and depriving offenders of the benefits deriving from their illegal activities, as well as in evaluating their systems of sanctions to ensure that they are effective in securing compliance and deterring violations;

191. *Recognizes* the importance of ensuring transparency of reporting of fishing activities within regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in order to facilitate efforts to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, as well as the importance of respecting the reporting obligations within those organizations and arrangements, notes in this regard the measures adopted by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas[217] and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission,[218] and encourages other regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to consider establishing similar measures;

X
Responsible fisheries in the marine ecosystem

192. *Encourages* States, individually and through relevant international bodies, to improve the understanding of the causes and impacts of forced labour and human trafficking in the fishing and aquaculture industries, including processing and related industries, and to further consider actions to combat these practices, including raising awareness of the issue;

193. *Highlights* the importance of safety at sea and working conditions in the fisheries sector, welcomes in this regard the close cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Labour Organization and the International Maritime Organization, including with regard to their joint work on codes and guidelines in relation to fishing vessel safety, including through the Joint Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing and Related Matters, as also recognized by the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, at its thirty-fourth session, and reiterates the Committee's request that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations further strengthen international cooperation on occupational health and safety issues in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors and promote decent work for fishers and fish workers;

194. *Recalls* that the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) and the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) are relevant instruments that ensure decent working conditions in fisheries and other maritime sectors, calls upon flag States to effectively implement their duty under the Convention with respect to labour conditions, taking into account applicable international instruments and national laws, and in this regard encourages States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), and to implement the Guidelines for port State control officers carrying out inspections under the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) and the Guidelines on flag State inspection of working and living conditions on board fishing vessels;

195. *Urges* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to enhance their efforts to apply an ecosystem approach to fisheries, taking into account paragraph 30 (d) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

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[217] International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, recommendation 11–16.

[218] Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, resolutions 12/07 and 13/07.

196. *Acknowledges* the importance of adequate training for fishers to improve safety at sea and the importance, in this regard, of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to that Convention;

197. *Encourages* States, individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant international organizations, to work to ensure that fisheries and other ecosystem data collection is performed in a coordinated and integrated manner, facilitating incorporation into global observation initiatives, where appropriate;

198. *Calls upon* States and regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, working in cooperation with other relevant organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the World Meteorological Organization, to adopt, as appropriate, measures to protect ocean data buoy systems moored in areas beyond national jurisdiction from actions that impair their operation;

199. *Encourages* States to increase scientific research on marine ecosystems in accordance with international law;

200. *Recognizes* that the science-policy interface is vital to the effective implementation of the provisions of the Convention and the Agreement by providing the best available scientific information for the conservation and management of living marine resources;

201. *Urges* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to strengthen the science-policy interface in order to further improve the application of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management and to address uncertainties and changes such as those related to the impacts of climate change in support of the development of adaptive fisheries management strategies;

202. *Calls upon* States, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, where appropriate, and other appropriate intergovernmental bodies to cooperate in achieving sustainable aquaculture, including through information exchange, developing equivalent standards on such issues as aquatic animal health and human health and safety concerns, assessing the potential positive and negative impacts of aquaculture, including socioeconomics, on the marine and coastal environment, including biodiversity, and adopting relevant methods and techniques to minimize and mitigate adverse effects, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the 2007 Strategy and Outline Plan for Improving Information on Status and Trends of Aquaculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as a framework for the improvement and understanding of aquaculture status and trends;

203. *Calls upon* States to take action immediately, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, and consistent with the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches, to continue to implement the 2008 International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (the Guidelines) in order to sustainably manage fish stocks and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals, from fishing practices with significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, recognizing the immense importance and value of deep-sea ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain, as documented in the first World Ocean Assessment;

204. *Recalls*, in this regard, that, in "The future we want", States committed to enhance actions to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from significant adverse impacts, including through the effective use of impact assessments, consistent with international law, the applicable international instruments and relevant General Assembly resolutions and guidelines of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

205. *Reaffirms* the importance of paragraphs 80 to 90 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113 to 127 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121 to 136 of resolution 66/68 of 6 December 2011 and paragraphs 156, 171 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123 of 7 December 2016 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and the actions called for in those resolutions, and emphasizes the need for full implementation by all States and relevant regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements of their commitments under those paragraphs on an urgent basis;

206. *Urges* States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that their actions in sustainably managing deep-sea fisheries and implementing paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123 are consistent with the Guidelines;

207. *Recalls* that nothing in the paragraphs of resolutions 61/105, 64/72, 66/68 and 71/123 addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems prejudices the sovereign rights of coastal States over their continental shelf or the exercise of the jurisdiction of coastal States with respect to their continental shelf under international law as reflected in the Convention, in particular article 77 thereof;

208. *Notes*, in this regard, the adoption by coastal States of conservation measures regarding their continental shelf to address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, as well as their efforts to ensure compliance with those measures;

209. *Reiterates* the importance of marine scientific research for the sustainable management of deep-sea fishery resources, including target fish stocks and non-target species, and to protect marine ecosystems, including the prevention of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

210. *Welcomes* the important progress made by States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and those States participating in negotiations to establish a regional fisheries management organization or arrangement competent to regulate bottom fisheries to implement paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72 and paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123, and address the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems, including that reflected in the summary of discussions from the two-day United Nations workshop addressing the impacts of bottom fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems and the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks, but notes with renewed concern the uneven implementation of those paragraphs listed above and that, in particular, bottom fishing continues to occur in certain areas beyond national jurisdiction without an impact assessment having been completed in the 16 years since the adoption of resolution 61/105, in which the General Assembly called for such assessments to be undertaken by 31 December 2008;

211. *Recognizes* the need for further progress with regard to obtaining more biological information on the species that comprise vulnerable marine ecosystems, including their associated and dependent species, the assessment of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, and protecting and conserving biodiversity, including beyond vulnerable marine ecosystems, as well as the consistent application of the Guidelines;

212. *Calls upon,* in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and those States participating in negotiations to establish a regional fisheries management organization or arrangement competent to regulate bottom fisheries, to identify and overcome barriers to the implementation of the relevant paragraphs of General Assembly resolutions 64/72, 66/68 and 71/123 such as data availability, especially with regard to baseline data and the spatial distribution and connectivity of vulnerable marine ecosystems, including their associated and dependent species, while recognizing the importance of international collaboration for this purpose, further recognizing that effective management of bottom fisheries is crucial to ensure the long-term sustainability of the sector;

213. *Calls upon*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to regulate deep-sea fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements to take, in particular, the following urgent actions regarding bottom fishing in areas beyond national jurisdiction:

(a) To use, as applicable, the full set of criteria in the Guidelines to identify where vulnerable marine ecosystems occur or are likely to occur, as well as for assessing significant adverse impacts on such ecosystems, including their associated and dependent species;

(b) To ensure that impact assessments, including for cumulative impacts of activities covered by the assessment, are conducted for all types of bottom-fishing activities consistent with the Guidelines, particularly paragraph 47 thereof, are reviewed periodically and are revised thereafter whenever a substantial change in the fishery has occurred or there is relevant new information, and that, where such impact assessments have not been undertaken, they are carried out as a priority before authorizing bottom-fishing activities;

(c) To ensure that the precautionary approach is applied, including in the utilization of impact assessments to inform management decisions and consideration of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, including their associated and dependent species;

(d) To ensure that conservation and management measures adopted by States and regional fisheries organizations and arrangements are based on and updated on the basis of the best available scientific information, noting in particular the need to improve the effective implementation of thresholds and move-on rules;

214. *Recognizes* that different types of marine scientific research, such as seabed mapping, mapping of vulnerable marine ecosystems based on information from the fishing fleet, on-site camera observations from remote vehicles, benthic ecosystem modelling, comparative benthic studies and predictive modelling have resulted in the identification of areas where vulnerable marine ecosystems are known or are likely to occur and in the adoption of conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts on such ecosystems, including the closure of areas to bottom fishing in accordance with paragraph 119 (b) of resolution 64/72;

215. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to manage bottom fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements, to consider the results available from different types of marine scientific research, including, as appropriate, those listed in paragraph 214 above, concerning the identification of areas containing vulnerable marine ecosystems, and to adopt conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts from bottom fishing on such ecosystems, consistent with the Guidelines, or to close such areas to bottom fishing until such conservation and management measures are adopted, as well as to continue to undertake further marine scientific research, for the above-mentioned purposes, in accordance with international law, as reflected in Part XIII of the Convention;

216. *Encourages*, in this regard, States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to manage deep-sea fisheries, and States participating in negotiations to establish such organizations or arrangements to continue to improve the best available science, carry out further marine scientific research to address the remaining knowledge gaps, in particular with regard to fish stock assessments to improve understanding of the connectivity of populations of deep-sea fish species and to base and update conservation and management measures on the best available scientific information, in accordance with international law, as reflected in Part XIII of the Convention;

217. *Notes with concern* that vulnerable marine ecosystems may also be impacted by human activities other than bottom fishing, and encourages in this regard States and competent international organizations to consider taking action to address such impacts;

218. *Calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to take into account the potential impacts of climate change and ocean acidification in taking measures to manage deep-sea fisheries and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, including by identifying areas, based on scientific information, where deep-water species and vulnerable marine ecosystems are likely to better survive such impacts, and establishing measures to support their resilience;

219. *Also calls upon* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements with the competence to regulate deep-sea fisheries, to adopt conservation and management measures, including monitoring, control and surveillance measures, on the basis of the best available scientific information, including stock assessments, to improve the robustness of such measures, to ensure the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and non-target species and the rebuilding of depleted stocks, consistent with the Guidelines and, where scientific information is uncertain, unreliable or inadequate, to ensure that conservation and management measures are established consistent with the precautionary approach, in particular with regard to vulnerable, threatened or endangered species;

220. *Recognizes*, in particular, the special circumstances and requirements of developing States and the specific challenges that they may face in giving full effect to certain technical aspects of the Guidelines, and that implementation by such States of paragraphs 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraph 119 of resolution 64/72, paragraph 129 of resolution 66/68 and paragraph 180 of resolution 71/123 and the Guidelines should proceed in a manner that gives full consideration to section 6 of the Guidelines on the special requirements of developing countries;

221. *Also recognizes* the need to enhance the capacity of developing States, including with regard to stock assessments, impact assessments, scientific and technical knowledge and training, and encourages States to provide

technical and financial support to developing countries to address their special requirements and challenges in implementing the Guidelines;

222. *Welcomes* the substantial ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations related to the management of deep-sea fisheries in the high seas and the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the publication of the technical paper entitled "Vulnerable marine ecosystems: processes and practices in the high seas", affirms the importance of the work undertaken pursuant to paragraphs 135 and 136 of resolution 66/68, and notes in particular the support provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to States in implementing the Guidelines;

223. *Decides* to conduct, in 2026, a further review of the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 181, 203 to 207, 209, 210, 213, 215 to 222 and 257 of the present resolution, with a view to ensuring the effective implementation of the measures therein and to make further recommendations, where necessary, and decides to precede that review with a two-day workshop;

224. *Recalls* the report of the Secretary-General on the actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123,[219] and welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on further actions taken by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in response to paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175, 177 to 188 and 219 of resolution 71/123;[220]

225. *Encourages* accelerated progress to establish criteria on the objectives, establishment and effective management of marine protected areas for fisheries purposes, and in this regard also encourages the application of the technical guidelines on marine protected areas and fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and urges involvement, coordination and cooperation among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

226. *Also encourages* efforts to establish guidance on the objectives, establishment and management of other effective area-based conservation measures for fisheries purposes, and encourages coordination and cooperation for this purpose among all relevant international organizations and bodies;

227. *Acknowledges* the work by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue the consultative process to develop and disseminate practical guidance, led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on "other effective area-based conservation measures";

228. *Notes* the decision by the fifth Intergovernmental Review Meeting on the Implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities[221] to hold no further sessions of the periodic Intergovernmental Review, while recognizing the continued relevance and valuable role of the Global Programme of Action and its three global partnerships, namely the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management and the Global Wastewater Initiative, to safeguard marine ecosystems, including fish stocks, against sources of land-based pollution, including plastics and excess nutrients, and physical degradation, taking into account the increase in oceanic dead zones;

229. *Calls upon* States, either individually, collectively or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to further study, develop and adopt effective management measures, and disseminate information in that regard, taking into account the best available scientific information, on fishing methods, gear types and uses to minimize mortality and other harms caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear;

230. *Acknowledges* the serious environmental, as well as economic and social, impacts on the marine environment caused by abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, and encourages States, and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to take action to reduce such gear, noting the

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[219] A/75/157.

[220] A/77/155 and A/77/155/Corr.1.

[221] A/51/116, annex II.

recommendations of the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

231. *Reaffirms* the importance that it attaches to paragraphs 77 to 81 of resolution 60/31 of 29 November 2005 concerning the issue of lost, abandoned or otherwise discarded fishing gear and related marine debris and the adverse impacts that such debris and derelict fishing gear have on, inter alia, fish stocks, habitats and other marine species, and urges accelerated progress by States and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in implementing those paragraphs of the resolution;

232. *Recalls*, in this regard, that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fourth session, encouraged the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue promoting the Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear and the provision of capacity development at regional and national levels;

233. *Also recalls* annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, in which it is stated, inter alia, that the accidental loss or discharge of fishing gear which poses a significant threat to the marine environment or navigation, shall be reported to the State whose flag the ship is entitled to fly, and, where the loss or discharge occurs within waters subject to the jurisdiction of a coastal State, also to that coastal State;[222]

234. *Notes* the decision of the Marine Environmental Protection Committee of the International Maritime Organization, at its seventy-eighth session, to develop draft amendments to annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, and associated guidelines to make the marking of fishing gear mandatory, using a goal-based approach;

235. *Encourages* further studies, including by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on the impacts of underwater noise on fish stocks and fishing catch rates, as well as associated socioeconomic effects;

236. *Calls upon* States, including through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to play an active role in global efforts to conserve and sustainably use living marine resources, so as to contribute to marine biological diversity;

237. *Encourages* States, either individually or through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, as appropriate, to identify any spawning and nursery areas for fish stocks under their jurisdiction or competence and, where required, to adopt science-based measures to conserve such stocks during these critical life stages;

238. *Expresses concern* about the continuing influx of sargassum seaweed into the waters of the Caribbean and its impact on aquatic resources, fisheries, shorelines, waterways and tourism and the general well-being of coastal communities, and encourages States and relevant regional organizations to coordinate efforts to better understand the causes and impacts of the influx, and to eliminate extraordinary amounts of sargassum washed up along the coastline using environmentally sound techniques, as well as to work on joint solutions to maintain and protect the livelihoods of fishers and fishing communities and find ways of beneficially utilizing the seaweed and environmentally friendly ways of disposing of sargassum washed up on shore;

239. *Recognizes* the wide range of impacts of ocean acidification on marine ecosystems, and calls upon States to tackle the causes of ocean acidification and to further study its impacts;

240. *Emphasizes* the importance of developing adaptive marine resource management strategies and enhancing capacity-building to implement such strategies in order to enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems to minimize the wide range of impacts on marine organisms and threats to food security caused by ocean acidification, in particular the impacts on the ability of calciferous plankton, coral reefs, shellfish and crustaceans to build shells and skeletal structures and the threats that this could pose to protein supply;

241. *Notes* that the Committee on Fisheries, at its thirty-fifth session, requested the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to strengthen its involvement in the intergovernmental conference convened under resolution 72/249 on an international legally binding instrument under the Convention on the conservation and

[222] International Maritime Organization, resolution MEPC.201(62).

sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction to provide the necessary and relevant technical advice;

XI
Capacity-building

242. *Reiterates* the crucial importance of cooperation by States directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant subregional and regional organizations, and by other international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through its FishCode programme, including through financial and/or technical assistance, in accordance with the Agreement, the Compliance Agreement, the Code and its associated international plans of action, to increase the capacity of developing States to achieve the goals and implement the actions called for in the present resolution;

243. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in developing guidance on, and assisting in the implementation of, the strategies and measures required for the creation of an enabling environment for sustainable small-scale fisheries, and encourages studies for creating possible alternative livelihoods for coastal communities;

244. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology;

245. *Also recalls* that, in "The future we want", States urged the identification and mainstreaming by 2014 of strategies that further assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in developing their national capacity to conserve, sustainably manage and realize the benefits of sustainable fisheries, including through improved market access for fish products from developing countries;

246. *Encourages* increased capacity-building and technical assistance by States, international financial institutions and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies for fishers, in particular small-scale and artisanal fishers, in developing countries, and in particular small island developing States, consistent with environmental sustainability, in recognition of the fact that food security and livelihoods may depend on fisheries;

247. *Encourages* States to strengthen international cooperation to assist developing countries in developing and implementing new sustainable aquaculture development strategies, which contributes to ensuring food security, nutrition, livelihoods, adaptation to climate change and the promotion of poverty reduction and eradication;

248. *Encourages* States to cooperate closely, directly or through the United Nations system, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, with a view to enhancing the capacity-building of developing States, including coastal States, in particular small island developing States, in the field of fisheries and aquaculture through education and training;

249. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the work of the United Nations University Fisheries Training Programme in Iceland and its contribution to training for developing States, in particular small island developing States, and emphasizes the need for the continuation and strengthening of this training for developing States;

250. *Acknowledges* the continuous efforts of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide learning opportunities through free e-learning courses on a variety of topics, including: port State measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; climate change adaptation and mitigation in fisheries and aquaculture; food loss and waste in fish value chains; the fisheries performance assessment toolkit; securing sustainable small-scale fisheries; and the ecosystem approach to fisheries, with the overall goal of strengthening the capacity of countries to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

251. *Encourages* the international community to enhance the opportunities for sustainable development in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and coastal African States, by encouraging greater participation of those States in authorized fisheries activities being undertaken within areas under their national jurisdiction, in accordance with the Convention, by distant-water fishing nations in order to achieve better economic returns for developing countries from their fisheries resources within areas under their

national jurisdiction and an enhanced role in regional fisheries management, as well as by enhancing the ability of developing countries to develop their own fisheries, as well as to participate in high seas fisheries, including access to such fisheries, in conformity with international law, in particular the Convention and the Agreement, and taking into account article 5 of the Code;

252. *Welcomes*, in accordance with the decisions taken by the parties to the Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing at their first and second meetings, the establishment by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of a trust fund under Part 6 of that Agreement to assist developing States parties, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States parties, in the implementation of that Agreement, and invites States, intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, regional economic integration organizations, national institutions, non-governmental organizations, foundations as well as natural and juridical persons to consider making voluntary financial contributions to the fund;

253. *Requests* distant-water fishing nations, when negotiating access agreements and arrangements with developing coastal States, to do so on an equitable and sustainable basis and to take into account their legitimate expectation to fully benefit from the sustainable use of the natural resources of their exclusive economic zones, to ensure that vessels flying their flag comply with the laws and regulations of the developing coastal States adopted in accordance with international law and to give greater attention to fish processing and fish-processing facilities within the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State to assist in the realization of the benefits from the development of fisheries resources and also to the transfer of technology and assistance for monitoring, control and surveillance and compliance and enforcement within areas under the national jurisdiction of the developing coastal State providing fisheries access, taking into account the forms of cooperation set out in article 25 of the Agreement and article 5 of the Code;

254. *Encourages*, in this regard, greater transparency regarding fisheries access agreements, including by making them publicly available, subject to confidentiality requirements;

255. *Encourages* States, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to provide greater assistance and to promote coherence in such assistance for developing States in designing, establishing and implementing relevant agreements, instruments and tools for the conservation and sustainable management of fish stocks, including in designing and strengthening their domestic regulatory fisheries policies and those of regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in their regions, and the enhancement of research and scientific capabilities through existing funds, such as the Assistance Fund under Part VII of the Agreement, bilateral assistance, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements assistance funds, the FishCode programme, the World Bank's global programme on fisheries and the Global Environment Facility;

256. *Calls upon* States to promote, through continuing dialogue and the assistance and cooperation provided in accordance with articles 24 to 26 of the Agreement, further ratifications of or accessions to the Agreement by seeking to address, inter alia, the issue of lack of capacity and resources that might stand in the way of developing States becoming parties;

257. *Encourages* States, regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other relevant bodies to assist developing States in the implementation of the actions called for in paragraphs 80 and 83 to 87 of resolution 61/105, paragraphs 113, 117 and 119 to 124 of resolution 64/72, paragraphs 121, 126, 129, 130 and 132 to 134 of resolution 66/68 and paragraphs 156, 171, 175 and 177 to 188 of resolution 71/123;

258. *Urges* States and regional economic integration organizations, individually and through regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, to mainstream efforts to assist developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, with other relevant international development strategies with a view to enhancing international coordination to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, consistent with the duty to ensure the conservation and management of those resources, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to fully mobilize and coordinate the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, including at the level of the regional economic commissions, within their respective mandates;

259. *Requests* States and regional fisheries management organizations to develop strategies to further assist developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in fully realizing the

benefits from the catch of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and in strengthening regional efforts to sustainably conserve and manage such stocks and, in this regard, to make available such information;

XII
Cooperation within the United Nations system

260. *Requests* the relevant parts of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and donor agencies to support increased enforcement and compliance capabilities for regional fisheries management organizations and their member States;

261. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies on the implementation of the international plans of action;

XIII
Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

262. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

263. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities and functions entrusted to him by the Convention, the Agreement and the related resolutions of the General Assembly and to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

XIV
Seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly

264. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations;

265. *Notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and the effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on sustainable fisheries, decides that the informal consultations on this resolution will be held in a single round of consultations in November for a period of six days, requests the Secretary-General to provide support to the consultations through the Division, and invites States to submit proposals for inclusion in the text of the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations no later than five weeks before the start of the consultations;

266. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", the sub-item entitled "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments", and to consider the possibility of including this sub-item in future provisional agendas on a biennial basis.

RESOLUTION 77/239

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Credentials Committee (A/77/600, para. 17)

77/239. Credentials of representatives to the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.[223]

[223] A/77/600.

RESOLUTION 77/240

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.37, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

77/240. Promoting and mainstreaming easy-to-understand communication for accessibility for persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[224] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[225] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[226] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[227] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[228] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[229] and all other relevant international human rights instruments,

Reaffirming also the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[230] which was adopted on 13 December 2006 and entered into force on 3 May 2008, a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities,

Recalling its resolution 76/154 of 16 December 2021 and its previous relevant resolutions, and relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council and of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions,

Noting with appreciation the contributions of the Steering Committee on Accessibility to improving the accessibility of United Nations premises, conferences and meetings, and information and communications,

Noting with appreciation also the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy launched by the Secretary-General on 11 June 2019,

Recalling that persons with disabilities include those who have long-term mental, intellectual, psychosocial or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others, including in relation to information and communications technologies and systems,

Emphasizing the need to incorporate a gender perspective in all efforts to promote the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities,

Reaffirming that persons with disabilities and their representative organizations should be consulted closely and actively involved in decision-making processes at all levels and in the development and implementation of legislation and policies and programmes, including those specifically related to persons with disabilities or concerning them directly,

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[224] Resolution 217 A (III).

[225] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[226] Ibid.

[227] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[228] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[229] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[230] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

Recognizing the importance of inclusion and accessibility for persons with disabilities in all aspects of life, including information and communications, stressing the urgent need to close digital divides, including with regard to such issues as the affordability of the Internet, and to ensure that the benefits of information and communications technologies, including new technologies, are available to all and the need to identify and eliminate prejudice, discrimination, obstacles and barriers that limit the access of persons with disabilities to information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems, including transfer of technologies, on mutually agreed terms, on an equal basis with others,

Reaffirming the importance of accessibility resources, processes and technologies, including easy-to-understand communication, and emphasizing that accessibility is a precondition for persons with disabilities to live independently in the community, participate fully, meaningfully and equally in all aspects of life, including in political and public life and decision-making processes, and fully enjoy all their human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with others, including through the use of universal design and assistive technologies, as a means of investing in society as a whole and as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[231]

Expressing concern that insufficient, or lack of, communication accessibility can have a disproportionate effect on persons with disabilities, and affects the fulfilment of their human rights, and their inclusion in society, on an equal basis with others,

Recognizing that individual support may be required for persons with disabilities to understand information, even when accessible information is provided, and recognizing also the need to improve the affordability of information and communications technologies, as well as to facilitate cooperation in research and access to scientific and technical knowledge in order to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities,

Recognizing also that persons with intellectual disabilities should have a leading role in the development and implementation of policies and in the development and production of facilities and products for easy-to-understand communication, including through their representative organizations,

Recognizing further that there is no one type of easy-to-understand communication, which includes different formats, depending on specific need,

1. *Reaffirms* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its key role, including in promoting the development, implementation, dissemination and mainstreaming of accessibility resources, tools and solutions, as well as information and communications, for all persons who may need them, including for persons with intellectual disabilities, with a view to ensuring the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities, especially intellectual disabilities, on an equal basis with others;

2. *Urges* Member States to redouble efforts to address obstacles and barriers to accessibility in information, communications and other services, including electronic services, emergency services and assistive technologies, to enable persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life, including in public, political, economic, cultural, social and family life;

3. *Highlights* the global concerns about the rapid spread and proliferation of disinformation, and underlines the need for the dissemination of factual, timely, clear, accessible, multilingual and evidence-based information, and the importance of providing and promoting access to such information as a tool to counter disinformation;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to take appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities can exercise the right to freedom of expression and opinion, including the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas on an equal basis with others, and through all forms of communication of their choice, including by providing information intended for the general public to persons with disabilities in accessible formats and using technologies appropriate to different kinds of disabilities, such as easy-to-understand communication, in a timely manner and without additional cost to those using those formats;

5. *Underlines* that information presented in easy-to-understand communication can benefit everyone, in particular persons with intellectual disabilities and persons with reading difficulties, including persons belonging to minorities;

[231] Resolution 70/1.

6. *Decides* to hold a half-day meeting, to be convened by the President of the General Assembly, within existing resources or through voluntary contributions, on the margins of the sixteenth session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to exchange views and identify and discuss good practices on the role of easy-to-understand communication in enabling persons with disabilities to live independently and to fully, equally and meaningfully participate in all aspects of life, including in political and public life, and fulfil all their human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with others, with the participation of persons with intellectual disabilities and their representative organizations;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing reporting obligations, and within existing resources or through voluntary contributions, to address the development, use and implementation of easy-to-understand language as an accessibility resource and tool for persons with disabilities and to present recommendations on guidelines and best practices, to be submitted during the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, in consultation with and ensuring the active engagement and participation of persons with intellectual disabilities and their representative organizations, as well as relevant United Nations entities, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, and other stakeholders such as civil society and representative organizations;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, regional intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations system, and processes including the Steering Committee on Accessibility and the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to produce a version of the present resolution in an accessible format and with easy-to-understand language, in close consultation with Member States and with persons with intellectual disabilities and their representative organizations.

RESOLUTION 77/241

Adopted at the 55th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.29, sponsored by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, China, Colombia, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, Kenya, Kiribati, Maldives, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Russian Federation, United Republic of Tanzania

77/241. International Day of Police Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming 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, and its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030,

Reaffirming also 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,

Recalling all relevant United Nations resolutions recognizing that cooperation between the United Nations and international organizations can contribute to enhancing coordination and coherence between police and law enforcement institutions,

Noting the work undertaken by the United Nations, in particular by entities of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Policing,[232] and in cooperation with partners in their efforts to provide technical assistance to Member States upon request and in accordance with existing mandates through joint activities, capacity-building and support for Member States in the fight against all forms of transnational organized crime,

Recognizing that different levels of policing capabilities exist between Member States and affect their ability to prevent and combat criminal activity, and in this regard calling for international cooperation on capacity-building and technical assistance upon request, while also mainstreaming a gender perspective and respecting human rights,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen international cooperation at the global, regional and subregional levels in various areas related to preventing and combating transnational crime, in particular transnational organized crime, and preventing and countering terrorism,

1. *Decides* to designate 7 September as the International Day of Police Cooperation, to be observed starting in 2023;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals and other relevant stakeholders, to observe the International Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, and to continue to give consideration to enhancing international cooperation in support of national police and law enforcement agencies;

3. *Invites* the United Nations, including entities of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Policing, to facilitate the observance of the International Day, seeking collaboration with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and other relevant organizations;

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

5. *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 intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to promote the observance of the International Day.

RESOLUTION 77/242

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.40, sponsored by: Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania

[232] Established in 2021 by the Executive Committee of the Secretary-General and co-chaired by the Department of Peace Operations of the Secretariat and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Participating entities include the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs-Peacebuilding Support Office, the Department of Safety and Security, the International Organization for Migration, the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict-United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

77/242. 2025 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[233]

Reaffirming 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 this 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 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 further that the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals will depend upon a revitalized and enhanced Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, bringing together Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors, and noting in this regard the interest expressed in holding future conferences or events at a high level that would complement but not duplicate existing efforts and activities to support the implementation of and to maintain political momentum to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 14,

Recognizing the central role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, and the high-level political forum on sustainable development held under their auspices, as well as the role of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea and the important contribution of all relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,

Recalling that, pursuant to its resolutions 70/226 of 22 December 2015 and 70/303 of 9 September 2016, the first United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development was convened at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day, to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, under the theme "Our oceans, our future: partnering for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14",

Recalling also that, pursuant to its resolution 73/292 of 9 May 2019, the second United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development was convened in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July 2022, to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, under the theme "Scaling up ocean action based on science and innovation for the implementation of Goal 14: stocktaking, partnerships and solutions",

Recalling further its resolutions 71/312 of 6 July 2017 and 76/296 of 21 July 2022 in which it endorsed the declarations adopted by the first and second United Nations Conferences to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action" and "Our ocean, our future, our responsibility", respectively, and in this regard reaffirming the important role of the declarations in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and sustainably use our oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development,

[233] Resolution 66/288, annex.

1. *Decides* to convene the high-level 2025 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development in France, in June 2025, to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14;

2. *Also decides* that all costs relating to the Conference and its preparation shall be financed through extrabudgetary resources;

3. *Welcomes* the generous offer by the Governments of Costa Rica and France to co-host and assume the costs of the Conference;

4. *Decides* to consider, before the end of the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, the modalities of the Conference in the most efficient and effective manner possible;

5. *Expresses its intention* to consider further opportunities to actively involve Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors in driving progress and supporting the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14.

RESOLUTION 77/243

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 154 to none, with 4 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.41, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Djibouti, France, Germany, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Luxembourg, Mauritania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Portugal, Qatar, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tonga, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Against: None
Abstaining: Belarus, Congo, Madagascar, Russian Federation

77/243. International Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism as and when Conducive to Terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling previous relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[234] and the consecutive General Assembly resolutions on the reviews of the Strategy, in particular its resolution 75/291 of 30 June 2021 concerning the seventh review thereof, including their provisions related to preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism,

Recalling also its resolution 70/254 of 12 February 2016 on the Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism,[235]

[234] Resolution 60/288.

[235] See A/70/674.

Reaffirming the commitment of Member States to taking measures aimed at addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism, while respecting all their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law,

Emphasizing in this context the primary responsibility of Member States and their respective national institutions in countering terrorism,

Underlining the important role of intergovernmental organizations, civil society, academia, religious leaders and the media in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism,

Reaffirming that terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Reiterating its unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as criminal and unjustifiable, and renewing its unwavering commitment to strengthening international cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism,

Reaffirming 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, particularly paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

1. *Decides* to declare 12 February the International Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism as and when Conducive to Terrorism, in order to raise awareness of the threats linked to violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism and to enhance international cooperation in this regard;

2. *Invites* all Member States, entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact and organizations of the United Nations system, within existing resources, as well as other international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, academia and the media, to commemorate the International Day in an appropriate manner, including through educational and public awareness-raising activities, and to share best practices in this regard;

3. *Invites* the Office of Counter-Terrorism, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, to facilitate the observance of the International Day;

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

5. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to contribute to and support the International Day.

RESOLUTION 77/248

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 159 to 1, with 3 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.36, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Viet Nam

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania,

Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Türkiye

Abstaining: Colombia, El Salvador, Syrian Arab Republic

77/248. Oceans and the law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its annual resolutions on the law of the sea and on oceans and the law of the sea, including resolution 76/72 of 9 December 2021, as well as other relevant resolutions concerning the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention),[236]

Recalling, in this regard, resolution 72/249 of 24 December 2017 on an international legally binding instrument under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, and decision 76/564 of 23 May 2022,

Underscoring the importance of the work undertaken by the intergovernmental conference to elaborate the text of an international legally binding instrument under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General,[237] the report of the intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction,[238] the report on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (the Regular Process),[239] the report on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (the Informal Consultative Process) at its twenty-second meeting,[240] and the report of the thirty-second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[241]

Noting with satisfaction the fortieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention by the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea on 30 April 1982 and the opening for signature of the Convention on 10 December 1982 at Montego Bay, Jamaica, and recognizing the pre-eminent contribution provided by the Convention to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal rights and to the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples of the world, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Emphasizing the universal and unified character of the Convention, and reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[242]

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[236] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[237] A/77/68 and A/77/331.

[238] A/CONF.232/2022/4.

[239] A/77/327.

[240] A/77/119.

[241] SPLOS/32/15.

[242] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

Noting with satisfaction that, in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[243] as endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, States recognized that oceans, seas and coastal areas form an integrated and essential component of the Earth's ecosystem and are critical to sustaining it, and that international law, as reflected in the Convention, provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources, and stressed the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and of their resources for sustainable development, including through their contributions to poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, food security and creation of sustainable livelihoods and decent work, while at the same time protecting biodiversity and the marine environment and addressing the impacts of climate change,

Recalling that, in "The future we want", States underscored that broad public participation and access to information and judicial and administrative proceedings were essential to the promotion of sustainable development and that sustainable development required the meaningful involvement and active participation of regional, national and subnational legislatures and judiciaries, and all major groups, and, in this regard, that they agreed to work more closely with major groups and other stakeholders and encouraged their active participation, as appropriate, in processes that contribute to decision-making, planning and implementation of policies and programmes for sustainable development at all levels,

Noting that, in "The future we want", States stressed the importance of the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the achievement of sustainable development and recognized the importance of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[244] in the context of global, regional, national and subnational implementation of sustainable development strategies,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[245] and in this regard reaffirming the commitment to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as reflected in Goal 14 of the 2030 Agenda, which is important to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals contained in the 2030 Agenda,

Recalling also its resolution 76/296 of 21 July 2022, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future, our responsibility" adopted by the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July 2022, as well as its resolution 71/312 of 6 July 2017, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action" adopted by the Conference held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017, and in this regard reaffirming the important role of the declarations in demonstrating the collective determination to act decisively and urgently to improve the health, productivity, sustainable use and resilience of the ocean and its ecosystem,

Recognizing the important contributions of the interactive dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of the high-level 2022 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 to accelerate the effective and timely implementation of Goal 14,

Recognizing also paragraphs 64 and 65 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted by the Conference, which was held from 13 to 16 July 2015,[246]

Welcoming the ocean-related outcomes of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, especially the resolutions on ending plastic pollution: towards an international legally binding instrument,[247] on nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development,[248] on

[243] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[244] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[245] Resolution 70/1.

[246] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[247] UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

[248] UNEP/EA.5/Res.5.

the sound management of chemicals and waste,[249] on biodiversity and health,[250] and on sustainable nitrogen management,[251]

Welcoming also the continued work of the International Maritime Organization to implement the Action Plan to Address Marine Plastic Litter from Ships,[252] and of the working group on sea-based sources of marine litter established by the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization, and co-sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme,

Conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary, intersectoral and participatory approach, and reaffirming the need to improve cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and global levels, in accordance with the Convention, to support and supplement the efforts of each State in promoting the implementation and observance of the Convention and the integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Reiterating the essential need for cooperation, in accordance with States' capabilities, including through capacity-building and transfer and development of marine technology, inter alia, in relation to the exploration, exploitation, conservation and management of marine resources, the protection and preservation of the marine environment, marine scientific research and other activities in the marine environment compatible with the Convention, to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues, while recognizing the need to also address the particular challenges faced by developing middle-income countries,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organizations to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of the oceans and their resources,

Recalling that marine science is important for eradicating poverty, contributing to food security, conserving the world's marine environment and resources, helping to understand, predict and respond to natural events and promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, by improving knowledge, through sustained research efforts and the evaluation of monitoring results, and applying such knowledge to management and decision-making,

Reiterating its deep concern at the serious adverse impacts on the marine environment and biodiversity, in particular on vulnerable marine ecosystems and their physical and biogenic structure, including coral reefs, cold water habitats, hydrothermal vents and seamounts, of certain human activities,

Emphasizing the need for the safe and environmentally sound recycling of ships,

Expressing deep concern at the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the physical alteration and destruction of marine habitats that may result from land-based and coastal development activities, in particular those land reclamation activities that are carried out in a manner that has a detrimental impact on the marine environment,

Reiterating its serious concern at the current and projected adverse effects of climate change, including rising seawater temperature, ocean deoxygenation, and sea level rise, as well as ocean acidification, on the marine environment and marine biodiversity, and emphasizing the urgency of addressing these adverse effects, considering also the importance of preserving the role of the ocean as a carbon sink,

Noting with concern, in this regard, the findings by the World Meteorological Organization, in its *Greenhouse Gas Bulletin No.18*, that, in 2021, carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere were at 415.7 plus or minus 0.2 parts per million, which represents an increase of 2.5 parts per million, a relative increase of 0.61 per cent, over the period

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[249] UNEP/EA.5/Res.7.

[250] UNEP/EA.5/Res.6.

[251] UNEP/EA.5/Res.2.

[252] Marine Environment Protection Committee, document MEPC 73/19/Add.1, annex 10, resolution MEPC.310(73), and document MEPC 77/16/Add.1, annex 2, resolution MEPC.341(77).

2020–2021, and the findings in its *State of the Global Climate 2021* that the global mean temperature for 2021 was about 1.11 degrees Celsius above the 1850 to 1900 baseline,

Noting with concern also that the World Meteorological Organization, in its *State of the Global Climate 2021*, highlighted that the past seven years, from 2015 to 2021, were the warmest on record, and that the world also continued to see increasing ocean heat content, rising sea levels, reaching its highest value on record in 2021, and increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases, while ocean acidification continued to increase and the cryosphere continued its contraction, with global sea ice shrinking,

Expressing concern that climate change continues to increase the severity and incidence of coral bleaching throughout tropical seas and weakens the ability of reefs to withstand ocean acidification, which could have serious and irreversible negative effects on marine organisms, particularly corals, as well as to withstand other pressures, including overfishing and pollution,

Reiterating its deep concern at the vulnerability of the environment and the fragile ecosystems of the polar regions, including the Arctic Ocean and the Arctic ice cap, particularly affected by the observed and projected adverse effects of climate change and ocean acidification,

Recognizing the need for a more integrated and ecosystem-based approach to, further study of and the promotion of measures for enhanced cooperation, coordination and collaboration relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction,

Recognizing also that the realization of the benefits of the Convention could be enhanced by international cooperation, technical assistance and advanced scientific knowledge, as well as by funding and capacity-building,

Recognizing further that hydrographic surveys and nautical charting are critical to the safety of navigation and life at sea, environmental protection, including the protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, and the economics of the global shipping industry, and encouraging further efforts towards electronic charting, which not only provides significantly increased benefits for safe navigation and management of ship movement, but also provides data and information that can be used for sustainable fisheries activities and other sectoral uses of the marine environment, the delimitation of maritime boundaries and environmental protection, and noting that, under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,[253] ships on international voyages are required to carry an electronic chart display and information system, in accordance with the implementation schedule as set out in that Convention,

Recognizing that ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law are critical for improving understanding of weather, climate and ecosystems, and that certain types of ocean data buoys contribute to saving lives by detecting tsunamis, and reiterating its serious concern at intentional and unintentional damage to such buoys,

Emphasizing that underwater archaeological, cultural and historical heritage, including shipwrecks and watercraft, holds essential information on the history of humankind and that such heritage is a resource that needs to be protected and preserved,

Recognizing the duty of States under article 303, paragraph 1, of the Convention to protect objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea and to cooperate for this purpose,

Expressing concern, in this regard, at various threats posed to such objects, including their destruction as well as the illicit trafficking in such objects,

Recognizing that illicit trafficking in wildlife is, in some cases, committed by transnational organized criminal groups using maritime routes, contributes to biodiversity loss and damage to ecosystems and livelihoods and requires enhanced regional and global cooperation and coordination in response, in accordance with international law,

Noting with concern the continuing problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms, and threats to maritime safety and security, including piracy, armed robbery at sea, smuggling and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, and noting the deplorable loss

[253] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1184, No. 18961.

of life and adverse impact on international trade, energy security and the global economy resulting from such activities,

Reiterating the importance of the fair treatment of crew members and its influence on maritime safety,

Recognizing that fibre-optic submarine cables transmit most of the world's data and communications and hence are vitally important to the global economy and the national security of all States, conscious that these cables are susceptible to intentional and accidental damage from shipping and other activities and that the maintenance, including the repair, of these cables is important, noting that these matters have been brought to the attention of States at various workshops and seminars, and conscious of the need for States to adopt national laws and regulations to protect submarine cables and render their wilful damage or damage by culpable negligence punishable offences,

Noting the importance of the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and that it is in the broader interest of the international community that coastal States with a continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles submit information on the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission), and welcoming the submissions to the Commission by a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention on the outer limits of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, that the Commission has continued to fulfil its role, including of making recommendations to coastal States, and that the summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available,[254]

Noting also that some coastal States may continue to face particular challenges in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission,

Noting further that financial and technical assistance may be sought by developing countries for activities in relation to preparing and presenting submissions to the Commission, including additional information with respect to submissions and revised or new submissions, including through the voluntary trust fund established by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/7 of 30 October 2000[255] for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, as well as other accessible international assistance,

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the Commission for coastal States and for the international community,

Recognizing that practical difficulties can arise when there is a considerable delay between the preparation of submissions and their consideration by the Commission, including in retaining expertise up to and during the consideration of the submissions by the Commission,

Recognizing also the significant workload of the Commission in view of the large number of submissions already received and a number of submissions yet to be received, which places significant demands and challenges on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations through the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat (the Division),

Noting with concern the projected timetable of the work of the Commission on the submissions already received by it and those yet to be received, and in this regard noting the decisions of the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to request the Commission to consider, in coordination with the secretariat, within the existing resources made available to the Secretariat, that the Commission, and its subcommissions meeting simultaneously as far as possible, meet at United Nations Headquarters for up to 26 weeks but not less than an intended minimum of 21 weeks a year, distributed in such a way that the Commission determines to be the most effective, and that no two sessions be sequential,[256]

Recognizing the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions under the Convention expeditiously, efficiently and effectively and maintain its high level of quality and expertise,

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[254] Available from the web page of the Commission maintained by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

[255] The terms of reference, guidelines and rules of the trust fund were amended by the General Assembly in its resolutions 58/240, 70/235 and 73/124.

[256] See SPLOS/229 and SPLOS/303.

Expressing concern about the implications of the workload of the Commission for the conditions of service of its members,

Recalling, in this regard, the decisions of the twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth and twenty-ninth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention regarding the conditions of service of the members of the Commission,[257]

Recalling also its decision, in resolutions 57/141 of 12 December 2002 and 58/240 of 23 December 2003, to establish a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments, as recommended by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[258] and noting the need for cooperation among all States to this end,

Recalling further its decisions, in resolution 65/37 A of 7 December 2010, resolution 66/231 of 24 December 2011, resolution 70/235 of 23 December 2015, resolution 71/257 of 23 December 2016, resolution 72/73 of 5 December 2017, resolution 73/124 of 11 December 2018, resolution 74/19 of 10 December 2019, resolution 75/239 of 31 December 2020 and resolution 76/72, regarding the Regular Process, as established under the United Nations and accountable to the General Assembly,

Recalling that the Division was designated to provide secretariat support to the Regular Process, including its established institutions,

Reaffirming the cross-cutting role of ocean science in Sustainable Development Goal 14 of the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming also its decision, in resolution 72/73, to proclaim the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development for the 10-year period beginning on 1 January 2021, within existing structures and available resources,

Recognizing the importance and the contribution of the work of the Informal Consultative Process established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/33 of 24 November 1999 to facilitate the annual review of developments in ocean affairs by the Assembly,

Noting the continuously growing responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/33, 65/37 A, 65/37 B of 4 April 2011, 66/231, 67/78 of 11 December 2012, 68/70 of 9 December 2013, 69/245 of 29 December 2014, 70/235, 71/257, 72/73, 72/249, 73/124, 75/239 and 76/72, and in this context the unprecedented substantial increase in activities of the Division, in particular in view of the growing number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings, the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, the need for enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and the role of the Division in carrying out its functions as the secretariat of the Regular Process, in relation to the functions as focal point for UN-Oceans and in relation to support for the implementation by Member States of the oceans-related Sustainable Development Goals in the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming the importance of the work of the International Seabed Authority (the Authority) in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (the Part XI Agreement),[259]

Reaffirming also the importance of the work of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (the Tribunal) in accordance with the Convention,

I
Implementation of the Convention and related agreements and instruments

1. *Reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention and the vital importance of preserving its integrity;

[257] See SPLOS/286, SPLOS/303 and SPLOS/29/9.

[258] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[259] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1836, No. 31364.

2. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to fully achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;

3. *Calls upon* States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the Fish Stocks Agreement);[260]

4. *Calls upon* States to harmonize their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention and, where applicable, relevant agreements and instruments, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention do not purport to exclude or to modify the legal effect of the provisions of the Convention in their application to the State concerned and to withdraw any such declarations or statements;

5. *Calls upon* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to deposit with the Secretary-General charts or lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention, preferably using the generally accepted and most recent geodetic datums;

6. *Notes*, in this regard, the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to improve the existing geographic information system for the deposit by States of charts and geographical coordinates concerning maritime zones, including lines of delimitation, submitted pursuant to the Convention, and to give due publicity thereto, also notes the ongoing cooperation and progress achieved in the development by the International Hydrographic Organization, in cooperation with the Division, of the technical standards for the collection, storage and dissemination of the information deposited, which are not legally binding, in order to ensure compatibility among geographic information systems, electronic nautical charts and other systems, and re-emphasizes the importance of the completion of these efforts through wide participation and reviews by Member States;

7. *Recalls* the note on the practice of the Secretary-General in respect of the deposit of charts and/or lists of geographical coordinates of points under the Convention[261] and the *Guidelines on deposit with the Secretary-General of charts and lists of geographical coordinates of points under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea* prepared by the Secretariat;[262]

8. *Urges* all States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in taking measures to protect and preserve objects of an archaeological and historical nature found at sea, in conformity with the Convention, and calls upon States to work together on such diverse challenges and opportunities as the appropriate relationship between salvage law and scientific management and conservation of underwater cultural heritage, increasing technological abilities to discover and reach underwater sites, looting and growing underwater tourism;

9. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage,[263] and notes in particular the rules annexed to that Convention, which address the relationship between salvage law and scientific principles of management, conservation and protection of underwater cultural heritage among Parties, their nationals and vessels flying their flag;

II
Capacity-building

10. *Recognizes* the importance of assisting developing States, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, in implementing the Convention, urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make voluntary financial or other contributions

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[260] Ibid., vol. 2167, No. 37924.

[261] SPLOS/30/12.

[262] Available at https://www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos_publications/publicationstexts/ DepositGuidelinesEnglish.pdf.

[263] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2562, No. 45694.

to the trust funds, as referred to in resolutions 55/7, 57/141, and 64/71 of 4 December 2009, established for this purpose, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;[264]

11. *Emphasizes* that capacity-building is essential to ensure that States, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, are able to fully implement the Convention, benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas and participate fully in global and regional forums on ocean affairs and the law of the sea;

12. *Also emphasizes* the need to address the particular challenges faced by developing middle-income countries through capacity-building;

13. *Calls for* capacity-building initiatives to take into account the needs of developing countries, and calls upon States, international organizations and donor agencies to make efforts to ensure the sustainability of such initiatives;

14. *Recalls*, in this regard, that, in "The future we want", States recognized the importance of building the capacity of developing countries to be able to benefit from the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and seas and their resources, and in this regard emphasized the need for cooperation in marine scientific research to implement the provisions of the Convention and the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as for the transfer of technology, taking into account the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its twenty-second session, in 2003;

15. *Emphasizes* the need for international cooperation for capacity-building, including cross-sectoral cooperation, at national, regional and global levels, to address, in particular, gaps in capacity-building in ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including marine science;

16. *Calls upon* donor agencies and international financial institutions to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the objectives of the present resolution, as well as the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the interests and needs of landlocked developing States;

17. *Encourages* intensified efforts to build capacity for developing countries, in particular for the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, to improve aids to navigation and search and rescue services, hydrographic services and the production of nautical charts, including electronic charts, as well as the mobilization of resources and building of capacity with support from international financial institutions and the donor community;

18. *Calls upon* States and international organizations, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to continue in a sustainable and comprehensive way to support, promote and strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training personnel to develop and enhance relevant expertise, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels and transferring environmentally sound technologies, and taking into account the need to improve capacities in the field of taxonomy;

19. *Calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to support and strengthen capacity-building activities in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to develop their maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to promote effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law;

20. *Also calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to support and strengthen capacity-building activities in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, in the

[264] See www.un.org/Depts/los/general_assembly/TrustFunds.pdf.

area of mitigation of and adaptation to climate change impacts on the ocean, including protection of coasts against sea level rise;

21. *Invites* States, in particular those States with advanced technology and marine capabilities, to explore prospects for improving cooperation with and assistance to developing States, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, with a view to better integrating into national policies and programmes sustainable and effective development in the marine sector;

22. *Recognizes* that promoting the voluntary transfer of technology is an essential aspect of building capacity in marine science, encourages States to use the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, and recalls the important role of the secretariat of that Commission in the implementation and promotion of the Criteria and Guidelines;

23. *Calls upon* States and international institutions, including through bilateral, regional and global cooperation programmes, technical partnerships and fellowships, to develop and strengthen capacity-building activities in and to transfer to developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, on mutually agreed terms, and taking into account the Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, environmentally sound technologies to study and minimize the impacts of ocean acidification;

24. *Notes* the international scientific cooperation through the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre of the International Atomic Energy Agency and within the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network, and their respective efforts in building scientific capacity for ocean acidification monitoring, research and experimentation, including through the Pier2Peer scientific mentorship programme;

25. *Recognizes* the ongoing activities of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in coordinating capacity-building efforts to support developing States in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in marine and coastal areas;[265]

26. *Emphasizes* the need to focus on strengthening South-South cooperation as an additional way to build capacity and as a cooperative mechanism to further enable countries to set their own priorities and needs and to foster actions to implement such cooperation;

27. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to capacity-building in the field of the law of the sea by the Rhodes Academy of Oceans Law and Policy, a cooperative undertaking by the University of Virginia School of Law, the Aegean Institute of the Law of the Sea and Maritime Law, the Law of the Sea Institute of Iceland, the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law, the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea of Utrecht University, the Centre for International Law of the National University of Singapore, and the University of New Hampshire School of Marine Science and Ocean Engineering, which enjoys associate sponsorship of the Korea Maritime Institute and the Ankara University National Center for the Sea and Maritime Law and offers a prominent three-week summer course annually in Rhodes, Greece, and has graduated 1,040 students from more than 120 countries;

28. *Also recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to capacity-building in the field of the law of the sea by the Summer Academy of the International Foundation for the Law of the Sea at the Tribunal;

29. *Further recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution of the Korea Maritime Institute to the trust fund to support the internship programmes at the Tribunal since 2011 and its continued efforts, in cooperation with the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea, to provide education and training for capacity-building of developing countries through the Yeosu Academy of the Law of the Sea programme;

30. *Recognizes* the holding of the regional courses on the continental shelf in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, jointly organized by the African Institute of International Law and the University of the Faroe Islands, and their continuing important contribution to capacity-building, particularly in developing countries;

31. *Also recognizes* the importance of the work of the Malta-based International Maritime Law Institute of the International Maritime Organization, as a centre of education and training of specialists in maritime law, including government legal advisers and other high-level officials, mainly from developing States, confirms its effective

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[265] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I, and Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity decision XII/23, paras. 19–22.

capacity-building role in the field of international maritime law, shipping law and marine environmental law, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and financial institutions to make voluntary financial contributions to the budget of the Institute which runs annually;

32. *Further recognizes* the importance of the World Maritime University of the International Maritime Organization, as a centre of excellence for maritime education and research, confirms its effective capacity-building role in the field of maritime transportation, policy, administration, management, safety, security and environmental protection, as well as its role in the international exchange and transfer of knowledge, notes the role of the World Maritime University-Sasakawa Global Ocean Institute, and urges States, intergovernmental organizations and other bodies to make voluntary financial contributions to the University's Endowment Fund;

33. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Tribunal in holding regional workshops, including the latest workshop on the role of the Tribunal in the settlement of disputes relating to the law of the sea, held in Malta on 2 and 3 June 2022, in cooperation with the International Maritime Law Institute of the International Maritime Organization and with the support of the Government of Cyprus and the Korea Maritime Institute;

34. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Tribunal in holding capacity-building workshops, including the latest workshop, on the settlement of disputes under the Convention for the legal advisers from the Asia-Pacific region, held at the Tribunal from 11 to 16 September 2022, sponsored by the Government of the Republic of Korea;

35. *Further welcomes* ongoing activities for capacity-building so as to address maritime security and protection of the marine environment of developing States, and encourages States and international financial institutions to provide additional funding for capacity-building programmes, including for transfer of technology, including through the International Maritime Organization and other competent international organizations;

36. *Recognizes* the considerable need to provide sustained capacity-building assistance, including on financial and technical aspects, by relevant international organizations and donors to developing States, with a view to further strengthening their capacity to take effective measures against the multiple facets of international criminal activities at sea, in line with the relevant international instruments, including the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[266]

37. *Also recognizes* the need to build the capacity of developing States to raise awareness of and support the implementation of improved waste management practices, noting the particular vulnerability of small island developing States to the impact of marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities and marine debris and nutrient pollution;[267]

38. *Acknowledges* the importance of capacity-building for developing States, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, for the protection of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources;

39. *Encourages* States to consider additional opportunities for capacity-building at the regional level;

40. *Takes note* of the second edition of the *Global Ocean Science Report* of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, which assesses the status of and trends in ocean science capacity around the world;

41. *Also takes note* of the Capacity Development Strategy (2015–2023) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, which takes into account that capacity development is a fundamental tenet of the mission of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

42. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to capacity-building through its Ocean Teacher Global Academy training system, which has provided training in ocean data and information management, built capacity and promoted expertise available in developing countries;

43. *Welcomes* the establishment by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its twenty-ninth session of the Group of Experts on Capacity Development and, in particular, its invitation to the Group of Experts in decision IOC-XXX/11.1 to continue the assessment of the capacity-development needs of the

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[266] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[267] See 2012 Guidelines for the Development of a Regional Reception Facilities Plan, International Maritime Organization, resolution MEPC.221(63).

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission member States and its decision, in decision IOC/A-31/3.5.3, to include, in the revised terms of reference of the Group of Experts, advising the Assembly on the Transfer of Marine Technology Clearing House Mechanism as requested by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, making use, to the largest extent possible, of existing data and information systems and building upon the Ocean InfoHub project (2020–2023);

44. *Takes note* of the adoption by the Assembly of the Authority of the decision to implement a programmatic approach to capacity development aimed at ensuring the fully integrated participation of developing States in the activities undertaken in the Area;[268]

45. *Calls upon* States to continue to assist developing States, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, at the bilateral and, where appropriate, multilateral levels, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including the assessment of the nature and extent of the continental shelf of a coastal State, and recalls that coastal States can make requests to the Commission for scientific and technical advice in the preparation of data for their submissions, in accordance with article 3 of annex II to the Convention;

46. *Recognizes* the importance of the trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the Convention, and for the purpose of providing assistance to developing States to meet the travel and daily subsistence allowance costs associated with meeting with the Commission when their submissions are being examined and upon the invitation of the Commission,[269] in accordance with paragraph 31 of the terms of reference, guidelines and rules of the trust fund, and also recognizes the need for assistance in the preparation of additional information with respect to submissions and revised or new submissions and in maintaining critical capacity during the period from the submission by a coastal developing State of the particulars of the outer limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles to the Commission up to the final stages of its examination by the Commission;

47. *Calls upon* the Division to continue to disseminate information on relevant procedures related to the trust fund established for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission and to continue its dialogue with potential beneficiaries with a view to providing financial support to developing countries for activities to facilitate their submissions in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure[270] and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission;[271]

48. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with States and relevant international organizations and institutions, to continue to support training and other activities to assist developing States in the preparation and presentation of their submissions to the Commission;

49. *Recognizes with appreciation* the contribution of the Division to capacity-building activities at the national and regional levels, in particular the work of the Division in promoting wider appreciation of the Convention and in assisting with its implementation, through the provision of information, advice and assistance to States and intergovernmental organizations, as well as the support of the Division for Member State implementation of the relevant parts of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

50. *Notes with appreciation* the joint implementation by the Division and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of a project funded through the United Nations Development Account to assist participating developing States in developing evidence-based and policy-coherent oceans economy and trade strategies and aimed at supporting participating developing States in realizing economic benefits from the sustainable use of marine resources, which concluded on 30 June 2022;

51. *Also notes with appreciation* the implementation by the Division of the programmes of assistance to meet the strategic capacity needs of developing States in the field of ocean governance and the law of the sea, funded by

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[268] ISBA/26/A/18.

[269] See resolution 70/235, para. 37.

[270] CLCS/40/Rev.1.

[271] CLCS/11, CLCS/11/Corr.1, CLCS/11/Add.1 and CLCS/11/Add.1/Corr.1.

the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, which has included the delivery of technical assistance in ocean affairs to developing countries and the delivery of customized regional training courses;

52. *Further notes with appreciation* the joint delivery of regional online trainings for East Africa, West Africa and the Pacific on ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the development of a self-paced e-learning platform by the Division and other partners under the PROBLUE Ocean Governance Capacity-Building Training Programme (World Bank);

53. *Notes* the partnership between the Division and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on a training programme on marine scientific research under the Convention, and encourages States, relevant international organizations and other donors to consider supporting the initiative;

54. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies and intergovernmental organizations, to endeavour to expand the capacity-building activities of the Division in order to meet the increased need for assistance to developing States;

55. *Invites* States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to support the capacity-building activities of the Division, including by making earmarked voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and expresses its appreciation to those that have contributed;

56. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution to the capacity-building of developing countries and the promotion of the law of the sea made by the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, which was established by the General Assembly in 1981 in honour of the first President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, and recalls in this regard the provisions of its resolutions on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law;[272]

57. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund for the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, notes that the financial state of the Fellowship remains a concern and that contributions are encouraged to ensure that at least one fellowship can be awarded annually, expresses its commitment to further promote the importance of the Fellowship, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make voluntary financial contributions in support of the Fellowship;

58. *Recognizes with appreciation* the important contribution of the United Nations-Nippon Foundation Fellowship Programme and the United Nations-Nippon Foundation Sustainable Ocean Programme, the latter of which came to an end in 2022 and included the Critical Needs Fellowship, Thematic Fellowship and training programme to reinforce capacity in the context of the intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, to human resources development for Member States, particularly developing Member States, in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea and related disciplines, as well as the fostering of global interlinkages and continuing capacity development through the alumni programme;

59. *Encourages* competent international organizations, the United Nations Development Programme and international financial institutions and funds to consider expanding their programmes within their respective fields of competence for assistance to developing countries and to coordinate their efforts, and recognizes the funding available from the Global Environment Facility, as well as other funds allocated for projects relating to oceans;

III
Meeting of States Parties

60. *Welcomes* the report of the thirty-second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;

61. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide services to the thirty-second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, including documentation, to convene the thirty-third Meeting of States Parties from

[272] Resolutions 69/117, para. 8, 70/116, para. 4, 71/139, para. 7, 72/115, paras. 7–8, and 73/201, para. 7.

12 to 16 June 2023, with full conference services, including documentation, as required, and to convene the thirty-fourth Meeting of States Parties for five days in 2024, with full conference services, including documentation, as required;

IV
Commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the Convention

62. *Notes with appreciation* that the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the Convention was commemorated at a meeting of the General Assembly on 29 April 2022 convened by the President of the General Assembly, by States Parties to the Convention at their thirty-second Meeting, and at a meeting of the Assembly of the Authority on 1 August 2022;

63. *Also notes with appreciation* the activities organized by the Secretary-General to mark the anniversary, in cooperation with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

V
Peaceful settlement of disputes

64. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued and significant contribution of the Tribunal to the settlement of disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, and underlines the important role and authority of the Tribunal concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement;

65. *Pays tribute* to the important and long-standing role of the International Court of Justice with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes concerning the law of the sea;

66. *Notes* that States parties to an international agreement relating to the purposes of the Convention may submit to, inter alia, the Tribunal or the International Court of Justice any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of that agreement submitted in accordance with that agreement, and also notes the possibility, provided for in the Statutes of the Tribunal and the Court, to submit disputes to a chamber;

67. *Encourages* States Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making a written declaration, choosing from the means set out in article 287 of the Convention for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Part XI Agreement, bearing in mind the comprehensive character of the dispute settlement mechanism provided for in Part XV of the Convention;

68. *Recalls* the successful completion of the first compulsory conciliation under annex V to the Convention, pursuant to section 3 of Part XV, in 2018, which assisted the parties in reaching agreement on a treaty establishing their maritime boundaries,[273] and encourages States to consider all means to peacefully settle disputes in accordance with international law;

VI
The Area

69. *Reiterates* the importance of the ongoing elaboration and standardization by the Authority, pursuant to article 145 of the Convention, of rules, regulations and procedures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment, for, inter alia, the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the Area and for the prevention of damage to the flora and fauna of the marine environment from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area;

70. *Notes* that, as at 15 June 2022, the Authority had entered into 15-year contracts with 19 contractors for exploration for polymetallic nodules, 7 contractors for exploration for polymetallic sulphides and 5 contractors for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts and that the Council approved the applications for the extension of approved plans of work for exploration for polymetallic nodules by 8 contractors;[274]

[273] See A/73/368, para. 19.

[274] See ISBA/27/C/28.

71. *Welcomes* the progress of the work of the Authority on draft regulations for exploitation of mineral resources in the Area, but also notes that the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the limitations recommended on meetings within its premises until the conclusion of the twenty-sixth session of the Authority in December 2021 affected the ability of the Council of the Authority to have substantive discussions on the draft regulations and procedures necessary to facilitate the approval of plans of work for exploitation in the Area pursuant to section 1, paragraph 15, of the annex to the Part XI Agreement, and in this regard encourages the Authority to continue its work on the draft regulations as a matter of priority and to provide sufficient opportunities and time for substantive consideration and discussion of the draft regulations as well as the relevant standards and guidelines, and emphasizes the ongoing need for openness and transparency and for the draft regulations to ensure that any exploitation activities would take place with the effective protection of the marine environment in accordance with the Convention;

72. *Notes* that the Council took stock during its November 2022 meeting of advances achieved in the elaboration of the regulatory framework for exploitation, including the standards and guidelines, and that, in addition, the Council discussed possible scenarios, as foreseen in section 1, paragraph 15 of the annex to the Part XI Agreement, and decided to continue the discussion at the twenty-eighth session;

73. *Also notes* the decisions adopted on the development of binding environmental threshold values and on the commissioning of a study on the internalization of environmental costs of exploitation activities in the Area;

74. *Recalls* the relevance of the advisory opinion on the responsibilities and obligations of States sponsoring persons and entities with respect to activities in the Area, issued by the Seabed Disputes Chamber of the Tribunal on 1 February 2011;[275]

75. *Recognizes* the importance of the responsibilities entrusted to the Authority by articles 143 and 145 of the Convention, which refer to marine scientific research and protection of the marine environment in the Area, respectively;

76. *Welcomes* the decision of the Assembly on the implementation of the strategic plan of the Authority for the period 2019–2023;[276]

77. *Notes* the Authority database (DeepData), which aims to serve as the principal repository of all data and information relating to activities in the Area;

78. *Encourages* the Authority to continue its work towards the standardization of marine bathymetric information collected in the Area, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, including the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the International Hydrographic Organization, particularly under the Seabed 2030 project;[277]

79. *Notes* the adoption by the Council of the decision relating to the review of the implementation of the environmental management plan for the Clarion-Clipperton Zone, including the approval of the designation of four additional areas of particular environmental interest,[278] and the progress made in the development of the environmental management plan for the area of the northern Mid-Atlantic Ridge, including the stakeholder consultation conducted for this purpose,[279] and encourages the Authority to continue to make progress on the development of regional environmental management plans in other priority areas in the Area, in particular where there are currently exploration contracts;[280]

VII
Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal

80. *Commends* the progress in the work of the Authority;

81. *Also commends* the work of the Tribunal since its establishment;

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[275] See ISBA/17/A/9.

[276] ISBA/26/A/32.

[277] See ISBA/23/A/2.

[278] ISBA/26/C/58.

[279] See ISBA/26/C/13/Add.1.

[280] See ISBA/26/C/10.

82. *Appeals* to all States Parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Tribunal in full and on time, and also appeals to States Parties in arrears with their contributions to fulfil their obligations without delay;

83. *Expresses serious concern* about the number of States Parties to the Convention in arrears with their assessed contributions to the Authority, appeals to all States Parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority in full and on time, and urges them to fulfil their obligations without delay, in particular those States whose exercise of voting rights has been suspended by virtue of article 184 of the Convention, and invites the Secretary-General of the Authority to continue his efforts to recover arrears, including bilateral efforts;[281]

84. *Notes* that there remains room for improvement in the level of attendance at the Assembly, and urges all members of the Authority to participate in the meetings of the Assembly;

85. *Expresses its appreciation* to the donors that have made contributions to the voluntary trust funds of the Authority, and encourages Member States, observers, contractors and other stakeholders to contribute financially to these trust funds;[282]

86. *Notes with serious concern* the depleted balance of the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to the decision of the Authority at its eighth session[283] for the purpose of defraying the cost of participation of members of the Legal and Technical Commission from developing countries and members of the Finance Committee from developing countries in the meetings of the Commission and of the Committee, notes the appeals to members and other possible donors to make contributions to that fund, and to contractors to consider making a payment of 6,000 United States dollars on a voluntary basis, and expresses its appreciation to those that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund;[284]

87. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the endowment fund for marine scientific research in the Area established by the Authority at its twelfth session,[285] for the purpose of promoting and encouraging the conduct of collaborative marine scientific research in the Area, and encourages States, observers, contractors and other stakeholders to make additional contributions to this fund;[286]

88. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[287] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[288]

89. *Emphasizes* the importance of the rules and staff regulations of the Tribunal in promoting the recruitment of a geographically representative staff in the Professional and higher categories, and welcomes the actions taken by the Tribunal in observance of those rules and regulations;

90. *Calls upon* coastal States that have not yet done so to deposit a copy of charts or lists of geographical coordinates showing the outer limit lines of the continental shelf with the Secretary-General of the Authority, as provided for in article 84, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

VIII
The continental shelf and the work of the Commission

91. *Recalls* that, in accordance with article 76, paragraph 8, of the Convention, information on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured shall be submitted by the coastal State to the Commission set up under annex II to the Convention on the basis of equitable geographical representation, that the Commission shall make recommendations to coastal States on

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[281] See ISBA/26/A/19.

[282] Ibid.

[283] See ISBA/8/A/11.

[284] See ISBA/26/A/19.

[285] See ISBA/12/A/11.

[286] See ISBA/26/A/19.

[287] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2167, No. 37925.

[288] Ibid., vol. 2214, No. 39357.

matters related to the establishment of the outer limits of their continental shelf, and that the limits of the shelf established by a coastal State on the basis of these recommendations shall be final and binding;

92. *Also recalls* that, in accordance with article 77, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on occupation, effective or notional, or on any express proclamation;

93. *Notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted information to the Commission regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, in conformity with article 76 of the Convention and article 4 of annex II to the Convention, taking into account the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (a);

94. *Also notes with satisfaction* that a considerable number of States Parties to the Convention have submitted to the Secretary-General, pursuant to the decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention,[289] preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and a description of the status of preparation and intended date of submission in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission, and notes with satisfaction that additional submissions referred to in preliminary information have been filed with the Commission;

95. *Further notes with satisfaction* the progress in the work of the Commission[290] and that it is giving current consideration to a number of submissions that have been made regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles;

96. *Takes note* of the 35 recommendations made by the Commission on the submissions of a number of coastal States, and welcomes the fact that summaries of recommendations are being made publicly available in accordance with paragraph 11.3 of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission;

97. *Notes* that the consideration by the Commission of submissions by coastal States in accordance with article 76 of and annex II to the Convention is without prejudice to the application of other parts of the Convention by States Parties;

98. *Also notes* the considerable number of submissions yet to be considered by the Commission and the demands that this places on its members and the secretariat as provided by the Division, and emphasizes the need to ensure that the Commission can perform its functions expeditiously, efficiently and effectively with its full membership and maintain its high level of quality and expertise;

99. *Invites* the Commission, consistent with its decision at its forty-fourth session,[291] to continue, during its next five-year term of office, to meet for a total of 21 weeks per year by holding three sessions of seven weeks each, with no two sessions being sequential, and further notes that more than nine subcommissions are actively considering submissions;

100. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take appropriate measures, within overall existing resource levels, to further strengthen the capacity of the Division, serving as the secretariat of the Commission, in order to ensure enhanced support and assistance to the Commission and its subcommissions in their consideration of submissions, as required by paragraph 9 of annex III to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, in particular its human resources, taking into account the need for simultaneous work on several submissions;

101. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary secretariat services to the Commission in accordance with article 2, paragraph 5, of annex II to the Convention;

102. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate and timely measures to ensure secretariat services for the Commission and its subcommissions for the extended duration of time requested in the decisions of the twenty-first and twenty-sixth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

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[289] See SPLOS/183.

[290] See CLCS/53/1 and CLCS/54/2.

[291] See CLCS/100.

103. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, consequently, to continue to allocate appropriate and sufficient resources to the Division to provide adequate services and assistance to the Commission in view of the number of its working weeks;

104. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have made contributions to the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission, and encourages States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to this fund;

105. *Notes* that the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, in its decisions regarding the conditions of service of the members of the Commission,[292] reaffirmed the obligation of States under the Convention whose experts were serving on the Commission to defray the expenses of the experts they had nominated while the experts are in performance of Commission duties, including the provision of medical coverage, and urged those States to do their utmost to ensure the full participation of those experts in the work of the Commission, including the meetings of subcommissions, in accordance with the Convention;

106. *Also notes* the request of the thirty-second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention that the consideration of the conditions of service of the members of the Commission continue within the open-ended working group established by the twenty-third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;[293]

107. *Emphasizes* the importance of the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 in facilitating the participation of members of the Commission from developing States in the meetings of the Commission, and expresses its appreciation to States that have made contributions to this trust fund;

108. *Reiterates its serious concern* that the chronic underfunding of the trust fund referred to in paragraph 107 above may preclude the Commission from advancing its work as a result of the potential lack of a quorum at future sessions, and may prevent it from further implementing the decision of the twenty-sixth Meeting of States Parties that requested the Commission to meet for up to 26 weeks, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to this fund;

109. *Authorizes* the use, as appropriate, of the trust fund referred to in paragraph 107 above, and in accordance with the purpose of its terms of reference, to defray the cost of the participation of the Chair of the Commission, when nominated by a developing country, in the Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

110. *Notes* the challenges faced by the Commission during the continued COVID-19 pandemic in carrying out its work as described in the letter dated 28 March 2022 from the Chair of the Commission addressed to the President of the thirty-second Meeting of States Parties;[294]

111. *Takes note* of the written information, provided by the Secretary-General in response to the request in paragraph 81 of resolution 69/245, on options for mechanisms to provide medical insurance coverage to members of the Commission, including costs, and the information provided by the Secretariat during the twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth, twenty-ninth and thirty-first Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

112. *Recalls* its decision that, on an exceptional basis and without setting a precedent for other agenda items, the members of the Commission have the option to join the Headquarters medical insurance scheme upon payment of the full cost of the premium, and hereby authorizes the use of the trust fund referred to in paragraph 107 above by the Secretary-General to reimburse the full costs of the premium paid by the members of the Commission from developing States, subject to the availability of funds following the allocation of the required funds to cover the costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance of the members of the Commission from developing States for the sessions of the Commission during the annual insurance coverage period (1 July–30 June);

113. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, in case the full costs of the Headquarters medical insurance scheme have not been reimbursed, as an interim measure and subject to the availability of funds following the allocation of the required funds to cover the costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance of the members of the Commission

[292] SPLOS/276 and SPLOS/286.

[293] See SPLOS/32/15.

[294] SPLOS/32/7.

from developing States for the sessions of the Commission in 2023, to reimburse those members for the costs of medical travel insurance and short-term medical insurance from that trust fund on a session-by-session basis and subject to a reasonable limit that the Secretary-General shall determine, based on the information regarding medical travel insurance available;

114. *Expresses its intention* to continue to consider options for mechanisms to provide medical insurance coverage to members of the Commission and, if necessary, to further review the terms of reference for the trust fund referred to in paragraph 107 above;

115. *Emphasizes* the continued need for members of the Commission to have suitable working space for their work at the sessions of the Commission and its subcommissions, recognizes, with regard to the long-term accommodation discussions, that, owing to its exceptional character, the Commission has special requirements for its working space, including the need for fit-for-purpose working space, adequate technical equipment and climate control, and needs to remain located within the same premises as the Division, and emphasizes that, in the context of any relocation of the Division or any change in its working space, full regard will be paid to these special requirements of the Commission;

116. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the fifty-seventh, fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions of the Commission, in New York, from 23 January to 10 March 2023, from 5 July to 22 August 2023 and from 4 October to 21 November 2023, respectively, with full conference services, including documentation, for the plenary parts of these sessions,[295] also approves the convening by the Secretary-General of the sixtieth, sixty-first and sixty-second sessions of the Commission for 21 weeks in 2024, in New York, with full conference services, including documentation, for the plenary parts of these sessions, as well as any resumed sessions as may be required by the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to meet these requirements within overall existing resources;

117. *Expresses its firm conviction* about the importance of the work of the Commission, carried out in accordance with the Convention as well as in accordance with its Rules of Procedure, including with respect to the participation of coastal States in relevant proceedings concerning their submissions, and recognizes the continued need for active interaction between coastal States and the Commission;

118. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that have exchanged views in order to increase understanding of issues, including expenditures involved, arising from the application of article 76 of the Convention, thus facilitating the preparation of submissions by States, in particular developing States, to the Commission, and encourages States to continue to exchange views;

119. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with Member States, to continue to support workshops or symposiums on scientific and technical aspects of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, taking into account the need to strengthen capacity-building for developing countries in preparing their submissions;

IX
Maritime safety and security and flag State implementation

120. *Encourages* States to ratify or accede to international agreements addressing the safety and security of navigation, as well as maritime labour, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with the Convention and other relevant international instruments aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements, and emphasizes the need for capacity-building for and assistance to developing States;

121. *Recognizes* that the legal regimes governing maritime safety and maritime security may have common and mutually reinforcing objectives that may be interrelated and could benefit from synergies, and encourages States to take this into account in their implementation;

122. *Emphasizes* the need for further efforts to promote a culture of safety and security in the shipping industry and to address the shortage of adequately trained personnel, and urges the development and strengthening of capacity-building activities and the provision of knowledge and skills through the required education and training, promoted

[295] From 30 January to 10 February 2023 and from 6 to 10 March 2023 during the fifty-seventh session, and on 5 July 2023 and from 8 to 11 August 2023 during the fifty-eighth session.

in particular by the International Maritime Organization in collaboration with other relevant international organizations and agencies, as appropriate;

123. *Also emphasizes* that safety and security measures should be implemented in support of and with minimal negative effects on seafarers and fishers, especially in relation to their working conditions, and welcomes the ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organization in relation to decent work and employment in fisheries and aquaculture and on child labour in fisheries and aquaculture, as well as the work that has been conducted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Labour Organization on the issue of trafficking in persons and forced labour on fishing vessels;

124. *Welcomes* the consideration by the International Maritime Organization of the fair treatment of seafarers, recalls the adoption by the Organization on 4 December 2013 of resolution A.1090(28) on the fair treatment of crew members in respect of shore leave and access to shore-side facilities, and welcomes the provision on shore leave, which entered into force on 1 January 2018, in the Convention on Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic;[296]

125. *Notes* the adoption by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization on 9 December 2021 of resolution A.1170(32), proclaiming an International Day for Women in Maritime, to be observed on 18 May every year;

126. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978,[297] as amended, and the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995;

127. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185)[298] and the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) of the International Labour Organization, as well as to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006,[299] as amended, calls upon States to effectively implement their obligations under those instruments, and emphasizes the need to provide to States, at their request, technical cooperation and assistance in this regard;

128. *Recalls* the call by the Ministerial Conference on Fishing Vessel Safety and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, held in October 2019 in Torremolinos, Spain, to those States that have not yet become parties to the Cape Town Agreement, whose entry into force would create a more robust International Maritime Organization regulatory framework for the safety of fishing vessels and fishing vessel personnel, to consider doing so by the tenth anniversary of its adoption on 11 October 2022;

129. *Invites* in this regard States to ratify or accede to the Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on the Implementation of the Provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977;

130. *Welcomes* ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization relating to the safety of fishers and fishing vessels, and underlines the urgent need for continued work in that area;

131. *Notes* the adoption by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization on 15 December 2021 of resolution A.1160(32) on comprehensive action to address seafarers' challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic;

132. *Also notes* the convening, pursuant to a resolution of the Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended, concerning the implementation and practical application of that Convention during the COVID-19 pandemic,[300] of an ad hoc United Nations inter-agency task force to examine the

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[296] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 591, No. 8564.

[297] Ibid., vol. 1361, No. 23001.

[298] Ibid., vol. 2304, No. 41069.

[299] Ibid., vol. 2952, No. 51299.

[300] International Labour Organization, document STCMLC/Part I/2021/2.

implementation and practical application of that Convention during the pandemic, including its impact on seafarers' fundamental rights and on the shipping industry;[301]

133. *Further notes* that, in its resolution A.1117(30) of 6 December 2017, the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization revised the International Maritime Organization ship identification number scheme to expand its voluntary application to a wider scope of vessels with a view to enhancing maritime safety and pollution prevention and to facilitate the prevention of maritime fraud;

134. *Recalls* that all actions taken to combat threats to maritime security must be in accordance with international law, including the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention;

135. *Recognizes* the crucial role of international cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels in combating, in accordance with international law, threats to maritime security, including piracy, armed robbery against ships at sea and terrorist acts against shipping, offshore installations and other maritime interests, through bilateral and multilateral instruments and mechanisms aimed at monitoring, preventing and responding to such threats, the enhanced sharing of information among States relevant to the detection, prevention and suppression of such threats, and the prosecution of offenders with due regard to national legislation, and the need for sustained capacity-building to support such objectives, and in this regard welcomes activities related to maritime security under the twenty-ninth Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Forum, held on 5 August 2022;

136. *Encourages* African Member States of the United Nations that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa (Lomé Charter) to facilitate its entry into force;

137. *Acknowledges* the work of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in promoting international cooperation and strengthening capacity to combat the problem of transnational organized crime committed at sea;

138. *Notes with concern* that piracy and armed robbery at sea affect a wide range of vessels engaged in maritime activities, and expresses grave concern at the threats posed by piracy and armed robbery at sea to the safety and welfare of seafarers and other persons;

139. *Emphasizes* the importance of promptly reporting incidents to enable accurate information on the scope of the problem of piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea and, in the case of armed robbery against ships at sea, by affected vessels to the coastal State, underlines the importance of effective information-sharing with States potentially affected by incidents of piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea, notes with appreciation the important role of the International Maritime Organization and the important contribution of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, which aspires to be recognized as a centre of excellence within its purpose and mandate, and notes the Maritime Domain Awareness for Trade – Gulf of Guinea mechanism, the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations covering the high-risk area, the Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre, based in Madagascar, and the Regional Maritime Centre for Operational Coordination in Seychelles;

140. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to actively combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including those relating to assistance with capacity-building through training of seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel in the prevention, reporting and investigation of incidents, by bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, and by adopting national legislation, as well as by providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

141. *Encourages* States to ensure effective implementation of international law applicable to combating piracy, as reflected in the Convention, calls upon States to take appropriate steps under their national law to facilitate, in accordance with international law, the apprehension and prosecution of those who are alleged to have committed acts of piracy, including the financing or facilitation of such acts, also taking into account other relevant instruments that are consistent with the Convention, and encourages States to cooperate, as appropriate, with a view to developing their national legislation in this regard;

[301] International Labour Organization, document GB.342/Decisions, para. 8.1 (c).

142. *Invites* all States, the International Maritime Organization, the International Labour Organization and other relevant international organizations and agencies to adopt or recommend, as appropriate, measures to protect the interest and welfare of seafarers, fishers and passengers who are victims of pirates, after their release from captivity, including their post-incident care and reintegration into society;

143. *Notes* the compilation of national legislation on piracy on the website of the Division, and encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Division to continue to cooperate with the International Maritime Organization with a view to assisting Member States, upon request, in developing their national laws on piracy;

144. *Recognizes* continued national, bilateral and trilateral initiatives, as well as regional cooperative mechanisms, in accordance with international law, to address piracy, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery at sea, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level on combating piracy and armed robbery against ships;

145. *Expresses serious concern* at the inhuman conditions hostages taken at sea face in captivity and also the adverse impact on their families, calls for the immediate release of all hostages taken at sea, and stresses the importance of cooperation among Member States on the issue of hostage-taking at sea;

146. *Recalls* the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Hostage Support Programme, funded by the Board of the trust fund to support initiatives of States countering piracy off the coast of Somalia, in securing the release of seafarers held hostage off the coast of Somalia;[302]

147. *Welcomes* the recent achievements against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia resulting from efforts at the global and regional levels, which have resulted in a steady decline in pirate attacks as well as hijackings since 2011;

148. *Notes* the continued efforts within the Contact Group on Illicit Maritime Activities in the Western Indian Ocean following the adoption of Security Council resolution 1851 (2008) of 16 December 2008, including at its twenty-fourth plenary session, chaired by Kenya, in January 2022, and commends the contributions of all States in the efforts to fight piracy off the coast of Somalia;

149. *Recognizes* the primary responsibility of the Federal Government of Somalia in combating piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, acknowledges the importance of a comprehensive and sustainable settlement of the situation in Somalia, and emphasizes the need to address the underlying causes of piracy and to assist Somalia and States in the region, at their request, in strengthening institutional capacity to fight piracy and tackle its underlying causes, including the financing or facilitation of acts of piracy, and armed robbery against ships off the coast of Somalia and to bring to justice those involved in such acts;

150. *Notes* the International Maritime Organization guidelines to assist in the investigation of the crimes of piracy and armed robbery against ships, revised interim guidance to shipowners, ship operators and shipmasters on the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, revised interim recommendations for flag States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, revised interim recommendations for port and coastal States regarding the use of privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, interim guidance to private maritime security companies providing privately contracted armed security personnel on board ships in the high-risk area, and interim guidance for flag States on measures to prevent and mitigate Somalia-based piracy;

151. *Notes with concern* that the continuing limited capacity and domestic legislation to facilitate the custody and prosecution of suspected pirates after their capture has hindered more robust international action against pirates off the coast of Somalia;

152. *Encourages* States to ensure that ships flying their flag apply ship security measures approved in accordance with national and international law;

153. *Notes* the efforts made by the shipping industry to cooperate with the efforts by States regarding piracy off the coast of Somalia, in particular in assisting ships that navigate in that area, and recalls the adoption on

[302] See S/2013/623, paras. 11–13, and S/2014/740, para. 10.

30 November 2011 by the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization of resolution A.1044(27) on piracy and armed robbery against ships in waters off the coast of Somalia;

154. *Also notes* the continued implementation of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in the Western Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden (Djibouti Code of Conduct), adopted on 29 January 2009 under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization, in the four thematic areas of information-sharing, training, national legislation and capacity-building, and notes the adoption in January 2017 of the Jeddah Amendment to the Djibouti Code of Conduct;

155. *Expresses its deep concern* at the continuing incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, in particular violence against innocent crew members of vessels, notes the adoption by the Security Council of resolutions 2018 (2011) of 31 October 2011, 2039 (2012) of 29 February 2012 and 2634 (2022) of 31 May 2022 and the statement by the President of the Council of 25 April 2016,[303] supports the recent efforts to address this problem at the global and regional levels, including the adoption of resolution MSC.489(103) on recommended action to address piracy and armed robbery in the Gulf of Guinea, by the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization at its 103rd session,[304] recalls the primary role of States in the region to counter the threat and address the underlying causes of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, welcomes the adoption in Yaoundé on 25 June 2013 of the Code of Conduct concerning the Repression of Piracy, Armed Robbery against Ships, and Illegal Maritime Activity in West and Central Africa, and calls upon States in the region to implement the Code of Conduct as soon as possible and consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

156. *Urges* States to ensure the full implementation of resolution A.1159(32) of 15 December 2021 of the Assembly of the International Maritime Organization on prevention and suppression of piracy, armed robbery against ships and illicit maritime activity in the Gulf of Guinea;

157. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[305] and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[306] invites States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 2005 Protocol to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[307] and the 2005 Protocol to the 1988 Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[308] and urges States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate;

158. *Calls upon* States to effectively implement the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code and the amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea,[309] and to work with the International Maritime Organization to promote safe and secure shipping while ensuring freedom of navigation;

159. *Urges* all States, in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization, to improve the protection of offshore installations by adopting measures related to the prevention, reporting and investigation of acts of violence against installations, in accordance with international law, and by implementing such measures through national legislation to ensure proper and adequate enforcement;

160. *Emphasizes* the progress in regional cooperation, including the efforts of littoral States, on the enhancement of safety, security and environmental protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore, and the effective functioning of the Cooperative Mechanism on Safety of Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (the Cooperative Mechanism) to promote dialogue and facilitate close cooperation between the littoral States, user States, shipping industries and other stakeholders in line with article 43 of the Convention, notes with appreciation the convening of the thirteenth Cooperation Forum in Malaysia and by

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[303] S/PRST/2016/4; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2015–31 December 2016* (S/INF/71).

[304] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 103/21/Add.1, annex 9.

[305] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1678, No. 29004.

[306] Ibid.

[307] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/21.

[308] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/22.

[309] International Maritime Organization, documents SOLAS/CONF.5/32 and SOLAS/CONF.5/34, and document MSC 81/25/Add.1, annex 2, resolution MSC.202(81), introducing the long-range identification and tracking of ships system.

videoconference on 18 and 19 July 2022, the thirteenth Project Coordination Committee Meeting, in Malaysia on 22 July 2022, the forty-fifth Tripartite Technical Experts Group Meeting in Malaysia on 20 and 21 July 2022 and the twenty-sixth Aids to Navigation Fund Committee Meeting in Indonesia and by videoconference on 21 and 22 June 2022, also notes with appreciation the important role of the Information Sharing Centre of the Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, based in Singapore, and calls upon States to give immediate attention to adopting, concluding and implementing cooperation agreements at the regional level;

161. *Recognizes* that some transnational organized criminal activities threaten legitimate uses of the oceans and endanger the lives of people at sea, as well as the livelihoods and security of coastal communities;

162. *Notes* that transnational organized criminal activities are diverse and may be interrelated in some cases and that criminal organizations are adaptive and take advantage of the vulnerabilities of States, in particular coastal and small island developing States in transit areas, and calls upon States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to increase cooperation and coordination at all levels to detect and suppress the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms, in accordance with international law;

163. *Recognizes* the importance of enhancing international cooperation at all levels to fight transnational organized criminal activities, including illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, within the scope of the United Nations instruments against illicit drug trafficking, as well as the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons and illicit trafficking in firearms and criminal activities at sea falling within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

164. *Encourages* States to cooperate at the bilateral, regional and global levels to prevent, combat and eradicate illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora where such trafficking occurs via maritime routes, through, inter alia, the use of applicable international legal instruments as appropriate, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[310] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[311] and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,[312] and reiterates its call upon Member States expressed in its resolution 71/326 of 11 September 2017 to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora a serious crime, in accordance with their national legislation and as defined in article 2 (b) and article 3, paragraph 1 (b), of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, in order to ensure that, where the offence is transnational in nature and involves an organized criminal group, effective international cooperation can be afforded under the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to prevent and combat transnational organized crime, and encourages States to implement the International Maritime Organization guidelines for the prevention and suppression of the smuggling of wildlife on ships engaged in international maritime traffic;

165. *Notes with grave concern* the recent proliferation of, and endangerment of lives through, the smuggling of migrants by sea, underscores the necessity to address such situations in accordance with applicable international law, and encourages States, acting nationally or through relevant global or regional organizations, as appropriate, to provide technical assistance and capacity-building to flag, port and coastal States, upon request, to enhance their capabilities to prevent smuggling of migrants and human trafficking by sea;

166. *Calls upon* States, in that context, to take measures in accordance with relevant international obligations to prevent and combat all forms of trafficking in persons, to identify victims of human trafficking, including among migrant flows, and to provide trafficking victims with appropriate protection and assistance, according to their national law and policy;

167. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[313] the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized

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[310] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[311] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[312] Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

[313] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

Crime,[314] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[315] and to take appropriate measures to ensure their effective implementation;

168. *Calls upon* States to ensure freedom of navigation, the safety of navigation and the rights of transit passage, archipelagic sea lanes passage and innocent passage in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention;

169. *Welcomes* the work of the International Maritime Organization relating to the protection of shipping lanes of strategic importance and significance, and in particular in enhancing safety, security and environmental protection in straits used for international navigation, and calls upon that Organization, States bordering straits and user States to continue their cooperation to keep such straits safe, secure and environmentally protected and open to international navigation at all times, consistent with international law, in particular the Convention;

170. *Calls upon* user States and States bordering straits used for international navigation to continue to cooperate by agreement on matters relating to navigational safety, including safety aids for navigation, and the prevention, reduction and control of pollution from ships, and welcomes developments in this regard;

171. *Calls upon* States that have accepted the amendments to regulation XI-1/6 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974,[316] to implement the Code of International Standards and Recommended Practices for a Safety Investigation into a Marine Casualty or Marine Incident,[317] which took effect on 1 January 2010, and, in particular, to comply with the mandatory conduct of a marine safety investigation into very serious marine casualties and submission of a marine safety investigation report to the International Maritime Organization to identify trends and develop knowledge and risk-based recommendations;

172. *Takes note* of International Maritime Organization resolution A.1091(28) of 4 December 2013 on guidelines on the preservation and collection of evidence following an allegation of a serious crime having taken place on board a ship or following a report of a missing person from a ship, and pastoral and medical care of persons affected;

173. *Recognizes* the important work of the International Hydrographic Organization and regional hydrographic commissions, calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider becoming members of that Organization, encourages all its members to actively facilitate and consider in a timely manner, in accordance with applicable rules and procedures, applications of States that wish to become members of that Organization and regional hydrographic commissions, and further urges all States to work with that Organization, to increase the coverage of hydrographic information on a global basis to enhance capacity-building and technical assistance and to promote safe navigation, particularly through the production and use of accurate electronic navigational charts, especially in areas used for international navigation, in ports and where there are vulnerable or protected marine areas;

174. *Also recognizes* the importance of navigational warning services based on marine meteorological data for the safety of ships and lives at sea and the optimization of navigation routes, and notes the collaboration between the World Meteorological Organization, the International Hydrographic Organization and the International Maritime Organization for the enhancement of these services and their extension to the Arctic region;

175. *Encourages* States to continue their efforts in the implementation of all areas of the Action Plan for the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency in March 2004;

176. *Also encourages* States to ensure effective implementation of the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code, the International Maritime Solid Bulk Cargoes Code, the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships carrying Liquefied Gases in Bulk and the International Code for the Construction and Equipment of Ships carrying Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk;

177. *Notes* that cessation of the transport of radioactive materials through the regions of small island developing States is an ultimate desired goal of small island developing States and some other countries, and recognizes the right

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[314] Ibid., vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[315] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[316] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 84/24/Add.1, annex 3, resolution MSC.257(84).

[317] Ibid., annex 1, resolution MSC.255(84).

of freedom of navigation in accordance with international law; that States should maintain dialogue and consultation, in particular under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the International Maritime Organization, with the aim of improved mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials; that States involved in the transport of such materials are urged to continue to engage in dialogue with small island developing States and other States to address their concerns; and that these concerns include the further development and strengthening, within the appropriate forums, of international regulatory regimes to enhance safety, disclosure, liability, security and compensation in relation to such transport;

178. *Acknowledges*, in the context of paragraph 177 above, the potential environmental and economic impacts of maritime incidents and accidents on coastal States, in particular those related to the transport of radioactive materials, and emphasizes the importance of effective liability regimes in that regard;

179. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007;[318]

180. *Requests* States to take appropriate measures with regard to ships flying their flag or of their registry to address hazards that may be caused by wrecks and drifting or sunken cargo to navigation or the marine environment;

181. *Calls upon* States to ensure that masters on ships flying their flag take the steps required by relevant instruments[319] to provide assistance to persons in distress at sea, and urges States to cooperate and to take all measures necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the amendments to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue[320] and to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea[321] relating to the delivery of persons rescued at sea to a place of safety, as well as of the associated Guidelines on the Treatment of Persons Rescued at Sea;[322]

182. *Urges* all States to cooperate with each other in inquiries relating to incidents of oil spills at sea, in line with relevant international law, including as reflected in article 94 of the Convention, and for this purpose to share, when requested by the affected coastal State in the context of such inquiries, any available information on the maritime traffic of ships that fly their flags and that sailed in the impacted maritime areas;

183. *Recognizes* that all States must fulfil their search and rescue responsibilities in accordance with international law, including the Convention, and in that regard encourages States and relevant international organizations to strengthen cooperation on maritime search and rescue activities at the international and regional levels in accordance with international agreements, including the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979;[323]

184. *Reaffirms* the ongoing need for the International Maritime Organization and other relevant organizations to assist, in particular, developing States both to increase and improve their search and rescue capabilities, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of additional rescue coordination centres and regional sub-centres, and to take effective action to address, to the extent feasible, the issue of unseaworthy ships and small craft within their national jurisdiction, and emphasizes in this regard the importance of cooperation for these purposes, including within the framework of the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979;

185. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant actors in relation to disembarkation of persons rescued at sea, underscores in this regard the need to implement all relevant and applicable international instruments and the importance of cooperation among States as provided for in those instruments, and emphasizes in particular the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement in accordance with applicable international law;

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[318] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.16/19.

[319] Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944, annex 12; International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974; International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, as amended; United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982; and International Convention on Salvage, 1989.

[320] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.1, annex 5, resolution MSC.155(78).

[321] Ibid., annex 3, resolution MSC.153(78).

[322] International Maritime Organization, document MSC 78/26/Add.2, annex 34, resolution MSC.167(78).

[323] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1405, No. 23489.

186. *Invites* States to implement the Revised Guidelines on the Prevention of Access by Stowaways and the Allocation of Responsibilities to Seek the Successful Resolution of Stowaway Cases, adopted by the Maritime Safety Committee of the International Maritime Organization in its resolution MSC.448(99) of 24 May 2018 and by the Facilitation Committee of that Organization in its resolution FAL.13(42) of 8 June 2018;

187. *Calls upon* States to continue to cooperate in developing comprehensive approaches to international migration and development, including through dialogue on all their aspects;

188. *Also calls upon* States to take measures to protect fibre-optic submarine cables and to fully address issues relating to these cables, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

189. *Encourages* greater dialogue and cooperation among States and the relevant regional and global organizations through workshops and seminars on the protection and maintenance of fibre-optic submarine cables to promote the security of such critical communications infrastructure;

190. *Also encourages* the adoption by States of laws and regulations addressing the breaking or injury of submarine cables or pipelines beneath the high seas done wilfully or through culpable negligence by a ship flying its flag or by a person subject to its jurisdiction, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

191. *Affirms* the importance of maintenance, including the repair, of submarine cables, undertaken in conformity with international law, as reflected in the Convention;

192. *Reaffirms* that flag, port and coastal States all bear responsibility for ensuring the effective implementation and enforcement of international instruments relating to maritime security and safety, in accordance with international law, in particular the Convention, and that flag States have primary responsibility that requires further strengthening, including through increased transparency of ownership of vessels and the monitoring of organizations authorized to carry out surveys and issue certificates on their behalf, taking into account the Code for Recognized Organizations;[324]

193. *Urges* flag States without an effective maritime administration and appropriate legal frameworks to establish or enhance the necessary infrastructure, legislative and enforcement capabilities to ensure effective compliance with and implementation and enforcement of their responsibilities under international law, in particular the Convention, and, until such action is taken, to consider declining the granting of the right to fly their flag to new vessels, suspending their registry or not opening a registry, and calls upon flag and port States to take all measures consistent with international law necessary to prevent the operation of substandard vessels;

194. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization on measures to prevent the fraudulent registration and fraudulent registries of ships, and further notes in this regard the adoption by the International Maritime Organization Assembly on 15 December 2021 of resolution A.1162(32) on encouragement of International Maritime Organization member States and all relevant stakeholders to promote actions for the prevention and suppression of fraudulent registration and fraudulent registries of ships and other fraudulent acts in the maritime sector;

195. *Recognizes* that international shipping rules and standards adopted by the International Maritime Organization in respect of maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and the prevention and control of marine pollution, complemented by best practices of the shipping industry, have led to a significant reduction in maritime accidents and pollution incidents;

196. *Notes* that audits of Member States under the International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme became mandatory in January 2016 under nine mandatory International Maritime Organization instruments and are being carried out in accordance with the Framework and the Procedures for the International Maritime Organization Member State Audit Scheme and using the International Maritime Organization Instruments Implementation Code (III Code) as the audit standard;[325]

197. *Encourages* States and competent international organizations and bodies to support the effective implementation of the requirements of the International Code for Ships Operating in Polar Waters (Polar Code), adopted by the International Maritime Organization under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of

[324] International Maritime Organization, resolutions MSC.349(92) and MEPC.237(65).

[325] See International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolutions A.1018(26), A.1067(28), A.1068(28) and A.1070(28).

1978 relating thereto, as amended,[326] including relevant requirements of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as amended;[327]

198. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization on matters related to passenger ship safety, and encourages States and competent international organizations and bodies to support continued efforts, including technical cooperation activities, to improve passenger ship safety;

199. *Also notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization regarding maritime autonomous surface ships, including regulatory scoping exercises and preliminary work towards the development of a goal-based instrument for maritime autonomous surface ships;[328]

200. *Recognizes* that maritime safety can also be improved through effective port State control, the strengthening of regional arrangements and increased coordination and cooperation among them and increased transparency and information-sharing, making ample use of information systems, such as the International Maritime Organization Global Integrated Shipping Information System,[329] including among safety and security sectors;

201. *Encourages* flag States to take appropriate measures sufficient to achieve or maintain recognition by intergovernmental arrangements that recognize satisfactory flag State performance, including, as appropriate, satisfactory port State control examination results on a sustained basis, with a view to improving quality shipping and furthering flag State implementation of relevant instruments under the International Maritime Organization as well as relevant goals and objectives of the present resolution;

202. *Notes with appreciation* the important contribution of the International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities to the improvement and harmonization of marine aids to navigation for the reduction of marine accidents, increased safety of life and property at sea and the protection of the marine environment, and in this regard recalls the adoption of the Convention on the International Organization for Marine Aids to Navigation and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider becoming party to that Convention to facilitate its entry into force, and further notes that the twentieth International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities Conference will be held from 27 May to 3 June 2023 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, with the theme of "Marine aids to navigation – innovation for a sustainable future";

X
Marine environment and marine resources

203. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures consistent with the Convention, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

204. *Calls upon* States to implement the 2030 Agenda, including Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recalls that the Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible;

205. *Notes* the need for actions to support sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for sufficient, safe and nutritious food, recognizing the central role of healthy oceans in resilient food systems and for achieving the 2030 Agenda;

206. *Reiterates*, in this regard, the call made in the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action" for action to be taken on an urgent basis to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;[330]

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[326] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24/Add.1, annex 19, resolution MEPC.203(62).

[327] International Maritime Organization, resolutions MSC.385(94) and MEPC.264(68) and related amendments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (resolution MSC.386(94)) and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (resolution MEPC.265(68)).

[328] See International Maritime Organization, document MSC 105/20.

[329] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolutions A.1029(26) and A.1074(28).

[330] Resolution 71/312, annex.

207. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States committed themselves to protect and restore the health, productivity and resilience of oceans and marine ecosystems, to maintain their biodiversity, enabling their conservation and sustainable use for present and future generations, and to effectively apply an ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach in the management, in accordance with international law, of activities having an impact on the marine environment, to deliver on all three dimensions of sustainable development;

208. *Reaffirms* paragraph 119 of resolution 61/222 of 20 December 2006 regarding ecosystem approaches and oceans, including the proposed elements of an ecosystem approach, means to achieve implementation of an ecosystem approach and requirements for improved application of an ecosystem approach, and in this regard:

(a) Notes that continued environmental degradation in many parts of the world and increasing competing demands require an urgent response and the setting of priorities for management actions aimed at conserving ecosystem integrity;

(b) Also notes that ecosystem approaches to ocean management should be focused on managing human activities in order to maintain and, where needed, restore ecosystem health to sustain goods and environmental services, provide social and economic benefits for food security, sustain livelihoods in support of international development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[331] and conserve marine biodiversity;

(c) Recalls that States should be guided in the application of ecosystem approaches by a number of existing instruments, in particular the Convention, which sets out the legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas, and its implementing Agreements, as well as other commitments, such as those contained in the Convention on Biological Diversity[332] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development call for the application of an ecosystem approach by 2010, and in this context encourages States to enhance their efforts towards applying such an approach;

(d) Encourages States to cooperate and coordinate their efforts and take, individually or jointly, as appropriate, all measures, in conformity with international law, including the Convention and other applicable instruments, to address impacts on marine ecosystems within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction, taking into account the integrity of the ecosystems concerned;

209. *Encourages* competent organizations and bodies that have not yet done so to incorporate an ecosystem approach into their mandates, as appropriate, in order to address impacts on marine ecosystems;

210. *Acknowledges* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session, in paragraph 6 of its resolution 2/10 of 27 May 2016, to the United Nations Environment Programme to step up its work, including through its Regional Seas Programme, on assisting countries and regions in the application of the ecosystem approach to managing the marine and coastal environment, including through enabling intersectoral cooperation in integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning;[333]

211. *Encourages* States, directly or through competent international organizations, to consider the further development and application, as appropriate and consistent with international law, including the Convention, of environmental impact assessment processes covering planned activities under their jurisdiction or control that may cause substantial pollution of or significant and harmful changes to the marine environment, and also encourages the communication of the reports of the results of such assessments to the competent international organizations in accordance with the Convention;

212. *Notes with concern* the impacts of climate change on the ocean and the cryosphere, including extreme sea level events and sea level rise, to which low-lying islands, in particular small island developing States, coasts and coastal communities are particularly exposed;

213. *Also notes with concern* the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its successive reports, and in this regard refers in particular to its special report entitled *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*, as well as the summary for policymakers, which was accepted by the Intergovernmental Panel at its fifty-first session on 23 September 2019, the 2022 report of its Working Group II on climate change impacts, adaptation

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[331] Resolution 55/2.

[332] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[333] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

and vulnerability, which was accepted by the Intergovernmental Panel at its fifty-fifth session on 27 February 2022 and the 2022 report of its Working Group III on mitigation of climate change, which was accepted by the Intergovernmental Panel at its fifty-sixth session on 4 April 2022;

214. *Recognizes* the importance of improving understanding of the impacts of acidification and climate change on oceans and seas, and recalls that, in "The future we want", States noted that sea level rise and coastal erosion are serious threats for many coastal regions and islands, particularly in developing countries, and in this regard called upon the international community to enhance its efforts to address these challenges;

215. *Takes note* of the findings of reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including its *Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C*, that increasing warming amplifies the exposure of small islands, low-lying coastal areas and deltas to the risks associated with sea level rise and extreme sea level events;

216. *Notes* the ongoing work of the open-ended Study Group of the International Law Commission on the topic "Sea-level rise in relation to international law";[334]

217. *Also notes* the discussions at the twenty-first meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, held from 14 to 18 June 2021, on the theme "Sea level rise and its impacts", which, inter alia, focused on the characterization and extent of sea level rise, including regional variability, and its environmental, social and economic impacts, highlighted the urgency of sea level rise and the impacts of the increasing frequency of extreme weather events for small island developing States and coastal States including low-lying coastal areas, discussed the various mitigation and adaptation responses, urging that measures be taken urgently and stressing possible challenges such as their cost, data gaps and challenges for modelling and monitoring sea level rise, stressed the importance of the science-policy interface and cooperation at all levels and with all stakeholders, the relevance of traditional and local knowledge, of the ocean-climate nexus and of the legal dimension, while noting that delegations looked forward to engaging in, and do not want to prejudge, the work of appropriate forums on legal matters related to sea level rise, and the need for international cooperation and coordination, capacity-building, national planning processes, and financing;[335]

218. *Further notes* the eighteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process in 2017, which focused on the theme "The effects of climate change on oceans", during which delegations discussed, inter alia, the environmental, social and economic impacts on all States, in particular developing States, of the effects of climate change on the oceans, as well as the urgent need to address such effects and impacts, the need for international cooperation and coordination, including concerted and immediate action to combat the effects of climate change on the oceans, as well as the need for continued coordinated international focus in recognition that, owing to the interconnected nature of the oceans, ensuing impacts cannot be overcome by any single State and, in particular, in view of the grave implications for countries with low-lying coasts, some of whose very existence is under threat;[336]

219. *Welcomes* the Paris Agreement[337] and its early entry into force on 4 November 2016, encourages all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[338] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, as appropriate, as soon as possible, notes the entry into force of the Doha amendment[339] to the Kyoto Protocol[340] on 31 December 2020, and recognizes the importance of raising awareness of the adverse impact of climate change on the marine environment, marine biodiversity and sea level;

220. *Notes*, in this regard, the decision at the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to invite the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice to hold an annual dialogue to strengthen ocean-based action and inviting relevant work programmes and constituted bodies under that Convention to consider how to integrate and strengthen ocean-based

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[334] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/74/10); ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No.10* (A/76/10); and ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/77/10).

[335] See A/76/171.

[336] See A/72/95.

[337] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[338] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[339] FCCC/KP/CMP/2012/13/Add.1, decision 1/CMP.8.

[340] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2303, No. 30822.

action in their existing mandates and workplans and to report on these activities within the existing reporting processes, as appropriate;

221. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the convening of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022;

222. *Notes with concern* the severe impacts on coastal communities of extreme weather events, such as tropical cyclones and associated storm surges, and encourages cooperative actions by relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, including the World Meteorological Organization and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission with the advice of the Joint WMO-IOC Collaborative Board,[341] to assist States in improving forecasting, including impact-based forecasting, of such events and its application in multi-hazard early warning systems and risk management under a more integrated approach to addressing the impacts of flooding types from multiple sources and severe weather;[342]

223. *Also notes with concern* the approximately 30 per cent increase in the acidity of ocean surface waters since the beginning of the industrial era[343] and the wide range of impacts associated with the continuing and alarming acidification of the world's oceans, and urges States to make significant efforts to tackle the causes of ocean acidification, recognizing countries' national circumstances and respective capabilities, and to further study and minimize its impacts, to enhance local, national, regional and global cooperation in this regard, including the sharing of relevant information and the development of worldwide capacity, including in developing countries, to measure ocean acidification, and to take steps to make marine ecosystems healthier and, as a result, more resilient, to the extent possible, to the impacts of ocean acidification;

224. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States called for support for initiatives that address ocean acidification and the impacts of climate change on marine and coastal ecosystems and resources and in this regard reiterated the need to work collectively to prevent further ocean acidification, as well as to enhance the resilience of marine ecosystems and of the communities whose livelihoods depend on them, and to support marine scientific research, monitoring and observation of ocean acidification and particularly vulnerable ecosystems, including through enhanced international cooperation in this regard;

225. *Recognizes* the attention paid to ocean acidification at the fourteenth, eighteenth and nineteenth meetings of the Informal Consultative Process, in 2013, 2017 and 2018, respectively, and commits itself to continue to pay attention to this important issue, including by taking into account the first and second World Ocean Assessments (World Ocean Assessment I and II), the ongoing work of the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the scientific cooperation fostered by the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network;

226. *Notes* the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, notes with concern its findings on the acidification of the oceans and the substantial risks to marine ecosystems, especially polar ecosystems, coral reefs, plankton and other organisms which have a calcareous exoskeleton, or a shell, like crustaceans, and the potentially detrimental consequences for fisheries and livelihoods, as well as the findings of the World Meteorological Organization contained in its annual Greenhouse Gas Bulletin, and notes its decision to foster collaboration with organizations and institutions that address the carbon budget of the ocean,[344] and in this regard encourages States and competent international organizations and other relevant institutions, individually and in cooperation, to urgently pursue further research on ocean acidification, especially programmes of observation and measurement, noting in particular the continued work under the Convention on Biological Diversity, and to increase national, regional and

[341] Established through World Meteorological Organization resolution 9 (Cg-18) and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission resolution XXX-2, which also disbanded the Joint WMO-IOC Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology.

[342] See World Meteorological Organization resolution 15 (Cg-18).

[343] As stated in the 2013 report of Working Group I of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the physical science basis of climate change.

[344] See World Meteorological Organization resolution 46 (Cg 17).

global efforts to address levels of ocean acidity and the negative impact of such acidity on vulnerable marine ecosystems, particularly coral reefs;

227. *Encourages* States, individually or in collaboration with relevant international organizations and bodies, to enhance their scientific activity to better understand the effects of climate change on the marine environment and marine biodiversity, support continued coordination of scientific work to study and minimize the impacts of ocean acidification and develop ways and means of adaptation, taking into account, as appropriate, the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches;

228. *Notes* the vital role that coastal blue carbon ecosystems, including mangroves, tidal marshes and seagrasses, play in climate adaptation and mitigation through carbon sequestration, and in increasing the resilience of coastal ecosystems to ocean acidification, and the range of other benefits that these ecosystems provide, including sustainable livelihoods, food security and biodiversity conservation, and coastal protection, and encourages States and relevant international institutions and organizations to work collaboratively to protect and restore coastal blue carbon ecosystems;

229. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States noted with concern that the health of oceans and marine biodiversity are negatively affected by marine pollution, including marine debris, especially plastic, persistent organic pollutants, heavy metals and nitrogen-based compounds, from a number of marine and land-based sources, including shipping and land run-off, and that States committed to take action to reduce the incidence and impacts of such pollution on marine ecosystems, including through the effective implementation of relevant conventions adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization, and the follow-up of relevant initiatives such as the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[345] as well as the adoption of coordinated strategies to this end, and that they further committed to take action, by 2025, based on collected scientific data, to achieve significant reductions in marine debris to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment;

230. *Encourages* States, in accordance with the commitment expressed in "The future we want" and based on collected scientific data, to take action by 2025 to achieve significant reductions in marine debris to prevent harm to the coastal and marine environment;

231. *Notes* the discussions at the seventeenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in 2016, which focused on the theme "Marine debris, plastics and microplastics" and which, inter alia, highlighted that the size of the problem had increased exponentially since the topic of marine debris was addressed at the sixth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in 2005, noted that marine debris in general, and plastics in particular, were some of the greatest environmental concerns of our time, along with climate change, ocean acidification and loss of biodiversity, discussed prevention and emphasized the need to address the issue, both downstream, through improved mechanisms for waste management, disposal and recycling, and upstream, by addressing consumption and production patterns, including through awareness-raising campaigns;[346]

232 .*Recognizes* the need for better understanding of the sources, amounts, pathways, distribution, trends, nature and impacts of marine debris, especially plastics and microplastics, and to examine possible measures and best available techniques and environmental practices to prevent its accumulation and minimize its levels in the marine environment, and welcomes in this regard the work conducted under the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, led by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and its report entitled *Sources, Fate and Effects of Microplastics in the Marine Environment: A Global Assessment*, its report entitled *Guidelines for the Monitoring and Assessment of Plastic Litter in the Ocean*, and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme entitled *From Pollution to Solution: A Global Assessment of Marine Litter and Plastic Pollution*, launched on 21 October 2021;

233. *Notes* that the *UNEP Frontiers 2016 Report* identifies microplastics as one of six key emerging environmental issues, further notes that the sixth Global Environment Outlook stresses, inter alia, the urgency of addressing ocean plastic pollution and the proven adverse impacts of microplastics to marine ecosystems, and calls upon States to implement resolution 4/6 on marine plastic litter and microplastics, adopted by the United Nations

[345] A/51/116, annex II.

[346] See A/71/204.

Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its fourth session, held in Nairobi from 11 to 15 March 2019;[347]

234. *Welcomes* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly, in paragraph 2 of its resolution 4/6, to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, subject to the availability of resources and benefiting from the work of existing mechanisms, to immediately strengthen scientific and technological knowledge with regard to marine litter, including marine plastic litter and microplastics;

235. *Also welcomes* the decision of the United Nations Environment Assembly, in paragraph 1 of its resolution 5/14, to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, with the ambition of completing its work by the end of 2024;[348]

236. *Further welcomes* the activities of relevant United Nations bodies and organizations, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Maritime Organization and other intergovernmental organizations, to address the sources and impacts of marine debris, including through the Global Partnership on Marine Litter, as well as actions relating to marine debris taken under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals,[349] in particular the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to that Convention at its twelfth meeting of resolution 12.20 on the management of marine debris, and notes the work of the International Whaling Commission on assessing the impacts of marine debris on cetaceans;

237. *Encourages* States to further develop partnerships with Indigenous Peoples, local communities, including coastal communities, industry and civil society to raise awareness of the extent of the impact of marine debris on the biological diversity, health and productivity of the marine environment and consequent economic loss and to cooperate with other States, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, including coastal communities, industry and civil society, as appropriate, on environmentally sound and cost-effective measures to prevent and reduce, as appropriate, marine debris and microplastics in the marine environment, including through strengthened cooperation under the Global Partnership on Marine Litter;

238. *Urges* States to integrate the issue of marine debris into national and, as appropriate, regional strategies dealing with waste management, especially in the coastal zone, ports and maritime industries, including recycling, reuse, reduction and disposal, to consider developing an integrated waste management infrastructure and to encourage the development of appropriate economic incentives with the aim of reducing marine debris to address this issue, including the development of cost-recovery systems that provide an incentive to use port reception facilities and discourage ships from discharging marine debris at sea, and support for measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution from any source, including land-based sources, such as community-based coastal and waterway clean-up and monitoring activities, and encourages States to cooperate regionally and subregionally to identify potential sources and coastal and oceanic locations where marine debris aggregates and to develop and implement joint prevention programmes for marine debris and to develop and implement environmentally sound options for recovery programmes, as well as to raise awareness of the issue of marine debris and the need to consider environmentally sound options for its removal;

239. *Notes* the activities carried out by organizations at the regional level to develop and implement regional action plans and other joint prevention and recovery programmes for marine debris, and further notes in this regard the revised Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of the Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (Helsinki Commission) in October 2021, the amendments to the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean adopted at the twenty-second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its Protocols in December 2021 in Antalya, Türkiye, the Second Regional Action Plan for the Prevention and Management of Marine Litter in the North-East Atlantic (2022–2030), adopted at the annual meeting of the OSPAR Commission in Copenhagen on 24 April 2022, and a regional plan for integrated management of marine litter in the South-East Pacific, adopted in April 2022 within the framework of the Protocol for the Protection

[347] UNEP/EA.4/Res.6.

[348] See UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

[349] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 28395.

of the South-East Pacific against Pollution from Land-based Sources[350] and the ASEAN Regional Action Plan for Combating Marine Debris in the ASEAN Member States (2021–2025) launched by ASEAN in 2021;

240. *Also notes* the work done under the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) framework to share best practices, enable innovative waste management financing and encourage public-private partnerships in order to prevent and reduce marine debris, including the holding in December 2021 of the virtual workshop on nanoplastics in marine debris supporting implementation of the APEC Roadmap on Marine Debris;

241. *Further notes* the convening of the third Workshop on Development of the Indian Ocean Rim Association Declaration on Combating Marine Debris and a Strategic Framework of Action on Marine Debris in the Indian Ocean on 28 and 29 September 2022 in Bali, Indonesia, to support the development of a strategic framework for action in combating marine debris in the Indian Ocean region;

242. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the members of the Group of 20 on the "Osaka Blue Ocean Vision", which aims to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050, and calls upon other members of the international community to also share the vision;

243. *Notes* the adoption by the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of the Bridgetown Covenant, and drawing also on the Nairobi Maafikiano, in which the Conference was requested to support developing countries in identifying relevant trade and investment policies to contribute to the attainment of the climate and environmental goals of the 2030 Agenda, continue to support, through policy dialogue and cooperation mechanisms, international and regional transport networks, ensuring their sustainability and resilience, and promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources, and to support small island developing States, most notably in addressing their specific vulnerabilities, build resilience and promote structural economic transformation and productive capacities, including through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;[351]

244. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to international agreements addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment and its living marine resources against the introduction of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens and marine pollution from all sources, including the dumping of wastes and other matter, and other forms of physical degradation, as well as agreements that provide for preparedness for, response to and cooperation on pollution incidents and that include provisions on liability and compensation for damage resulting from marine pollution, and to adopt the necessary measures consistent with international law, including the Convention, aimed at implementing and enforcing the rules contained in those agreements;

245. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States noted the significant threat that alien invasive species pose to marine ecosystems and resources and committed to implement measures to prevent the introduction and manage the adverse environmental impacts of alien invasive species, including, as appropriate, those adopted in the framework of the International Maritime Organization;

246. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004,[352] and also encourages States to consider implementing the Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species, adopted by the International Maritime Organization in resolution MEPC.207(62) of 15 July 2011;

247. *Notes* the activities carried out by the United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan and further notes in this regard the Mediterranean Strategy for the Prevention of, Preparedness and Response to Marine Pollution from Ships (2022–2031) and the Ballast Water Management Strategy for the Mediterranean Sea (2022–2027), adopted at the twenty-second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;

248. *Also notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization to prevent pollution from ships, including through the designation of Special Areas under the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution

[350] Ibid., vol. 1648, No. 28327.

[351] TD/541/Add.2, paras. 5 (d), 76, 127 (v) (iii), 127 (ll) and 127 (nn); and TD/519/Add.2 and TD/519/Add.2/Corr.1.

[352] International Maritime Organization, document BWM/CONF/36, annex.

from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended,[353] welcomes the adoption by the Marine Environment Protection Committee of an action plan and strategy to address marine plastic litter from ships,[354] and encourages the International Maritime Organization to continue working on the prevention of pollution from ships;

249. *Further notes* that the global limit of 0.50 per cent on sulphur in fuel oil under annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships entered into force on 1 January 2020, encourages States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol of 1997 (annex VI – Regulations for the Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto, as amended, and encourages the effective implementation of that Protocol;[355]

250. *Welcomes* the decision on the designation of the Mediterranean Sea, as a whole, as an Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides (Med SOx ECA) pursuant to annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, adopted at the twenty-second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols, and looks forward to the formal adoption by the International Maritime Organization of the Med SOx ECA in December 2022, with an ambitious entry into force in 2025, following the approval by its Marine Environment Protection Committee at its seventy-eighth session in June 2022, and encourages the completion of the ratification of annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships across the Mediterranean region as soon as possible;

251. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization and the resolution on International Maritime Organization policies and practices related to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships,[356] and in this regard also notes its adoption of an initial strategy on the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from ships[357] and the adoption of amendments to annex VI to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships[358] to require ships to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, with the aim of achieving the targets established by the initial strategy;

252. *Also notes* the theme for the 2022 World Maritime Day, "New technologies for greener shipping";

253. *Urges* States to cooperate in correcting the shortfall in port waste reception facilities in accordance with the action plan to address the inadequacy of port waste reception facilities developed by the International Maritime Organization;

254. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009[359] to facilitate its entry into force;

255. *Encourages* continued cooperation between the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal[360] and the International Maritime Organization on regulations on the prevention of pollution from ships;

256. *Notes* the role of the Basel Convention in ensuring that the management of hazardous wastes and other wastes, under the scope of that Convention, including their transboundary movement and disposal, is consistent with the protection of the marine environment;

257. *Notes with concern* the potential for serious environmental consequences resulting from oil spill incidents or pollution incidents involving hazardous or noxious substances, urges States, consistent with international law, to cooperate, directly or through competent international organizations, and share best practices, in the fields of

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[353] International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, annex IV (Regulations for the prevention of pollution by sewage from ships) and annex V (Regulations for the prevention of pollution by garbage from ships).

[354] International Maritime Organization, resolutions MEPC.310(73) and MEPC.341(77).

[355] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 62/24/Add.1, annex 19, resolution MEPC.203(62).

[356] International Maritime Organization, Assembly resolution A.963(23).

[357] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 72/17/Add.1, annex 11, resolution MEPC.304(72).

[358] International Maritime Organization, document MEPC 76/15/Add.1, annex 1, resolution MEPC.328(76).

[359] International Maritime Organization, document SR/CONF/45.

[360] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1673, No. 28911.

protection of the marine environment, human health and safety, prevention, emergency response and mitigation, and in this regard encourages the undertaking of and collaboration on scientific research, including marine scientific research, to better understand the consequences of marine oil spills or marine spills involving hazardous or noxious substances;

258. *Encourages* States, in accordance with international law, including the Convention and other relevant instruments, either bilaterally or regionally, to jointly develop and promote contingency plans for responding to pollution incidents, as well as other incidents that are likely to have significant adverse effects on the marine environment and biodiversity;

259. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation, 1990,[361] and the Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Cooperation to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances, 2000, of the International Maritime Organization, and in this regard to consider developing and joining regional arrangements to enhance international cooperation for combating major oil and hazardous substances pollution incidents;

260. *Encourages* States to consider becoming parties to the 2010 Protocol to the 1996 International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea;[362]

261. *Recognizes* that most of the pollution load of the oceans emanates from land-based activities and affects the most productive areas of the marine environment, and calls upon States, as a matter of priority, to implement the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;

262. *Welcomes* the continued work of States, the United Nations Environment Programme and regional organizations in the implementation of the Global Programme of Action, and encourages increased emphasis on the link between fresh water, the coastal zone and marine resources in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, as well as of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;

263. *Expresses its concern* regarding the spreading of hypoxic dead zones and harmful algal blooms in oceans as a result of eutrophication fuelled by riverine run-off of fertilizers, sewage outfall and reactive nitrogen resulting from the burning of fossil fuels and resulting in serious consequences for ecosystem functioning, and calls upon States to enhance their efforts to reduce eutrophication, particularly by reducing total nutrient pollution from land-based sources and, to this effect, to continue to cooperate within the framework of relevant international organizations, in particular the Global Programme of Action and the Global Partnership on Nutrient Management and Global Wastewater Initiative, including through capacity-building initiatives and efforts to monitor, via the Global Ocean Observing System, stressors such as harmful algal blooms, areas of hypoxia, sargassum seaweed invasions and jellyfish blooms, to assess their possible linkage to eutrophication and their potential adverse impacts on the marine environment as well as on human health;

264. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to take, as soon as possible, the domestic measures necessary to enable them to meet their obligations upon ratification and, thereafter, to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Minamata Convention on Mercury;[363]

265. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that urban and coastal development projects and related land-reclamation activities are carried out in a responsible manner that protects the marine habitat and environment and mitigates the negative consequences of such activities;

266. *Encourages* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the 1996 Protocol to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Protocol);

267. *Recalls* the resolution of the thirtieth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, 1972 (the London Convention) and the third Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 27 to 31 October 2008, on the regulation of

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[361] Ibid., vol. 1891, No. 32194.

[362] International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.17/10.

[363] UNEP(DTIE)/Hg/CONF/4, annex II.

ocean fertilization,[364] in which the Contracting Parties agreed, inter alia, that the scope of the London Convention and Protocol includes ocean fertilization activities and that, given the present state of knowledge, ocean fertilization activities other than for legitimate scientific research should not be allowed, and that scientific research proposals should be assessed on a case-by-case basis using an assessment framework that was subsequently developed and adopted in 2010 by the Contracting Parties to the London Convention and Protocol, namely, the Assessment Framework for Scientific Research Involving Ocean Fertilization,[365] and also agreed that, to this end, such other activities should be considered as contrary to the aims of the London Convention and Protocol and should not currently qualify for any exemption from the definition of dumping in article III, paragraph 1 (b), of the London Convention and article 1, paragraph 4.2, of the London Protocol;[366]

268. *Notes* the continued work of the Contracting Parties to the London Convention and Protocol towards a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism for ocean fertilization activities and other activities that fall within the scope of the London Convention and Protocol and have the potential to cause harm to the marine environment, and notes the resolution adopted by the eighth Meeting of Contracting Parties to the London Protocol, held from 14 to 18 October 2013, on the amendment to the London Protocol to regulate the placement of matter for ocean fertilization and other marine geoengineering activities;[367]

269. *Recalls* decision IX/16 C, adopted at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May 2008,[368] in which the Conference of the Parties, inter alia, bearing in mind the ongoing scientific and legal analysis occurring under the auspices of the London Convention and Protocol, requested parties and urged other Governments, in accordance with the precautionary approach, to ensure that ocean fertilization activities were not carried out until there was an adequate scientific basis on which to justify such activities, including an assessment of associated risks, and that a global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism was in place for those activities, with the exception of small-scale scientific research studies within coastal waters, and stated that such studies should be authorized only if justified by the need to gather specific scientific data, should be subject to a thorough prior assessment of the potential impacts of the research studies on the marine environment, should be strictly controlled and should not be used for generating and selling carbon offsets or for any other commercial purposes, and takes note of decision X/29, adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Nagoya, Japan, from 18 to 29 October 2010,[369] in which the Conference of the Parties requested parties to implement decision IX/16 C;

270. *Also recalls* that, in "The future we want", States stressed their concern about the potential environmental impacts of ocean fertilization, recalled in this regard the decisions related to ocean fertilization adopted by the relevant intergovernmental bodies, and resolved to continue addressing ocean fertilization with utmost caution, consistent with the precautionary approach;

271. *Encourages* States that have not done so to become parties to regional seas conventions and the protocols thereto addressing the protection and preservation of the marine environment, while noting the role of the United Nations Environment Programme Regional Seas Programme;

XI
Marine biodiversity

272. *Reaffirms* its central role relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;

273. *Notes* the work and contributions of States and relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies in the context of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, and the extensive and complex discussions and exchange of views at the four sessions of the Preparatory Committee established by resolution 69/292:

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[364] International Maritime Organization, document LC 30/16, annex 6, resolution LC-LP.1 (2008).

[365] International Maritime Organization, document LC 32/15 and Corr.1, annex 5, resolution LC LP.2 (2010).

[366] Ibid.

[367] International Maritime Organization, document LC 35/15, annex 4, resolution LP.4(8).

[368] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I.

[369] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, which concluded on 21 July 2017, as well as the report of the Preparatory Committee and the recommendations contained therein;[370]

274. *Welcomes* the holding of the fourth and fifth sessions of the intergovernmental conference convened under resolution 72/249 and decision 76/564 from 7 to 18 March 2022 and 15 to 26 August 2022, respectively, and takes note of the substantive discussions that addressed the topics identified in the package agreed in 2011, namely, the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, in particular, together and as a whole, marine genetic resources, including questions on the sharing of benefits, measures such as area-based management tools, including marine protected areas, environmental impact assessments, and capacity-building and the transfer of marine technology, and further takes note of the decision of the conference to suspend the fifth session and resume it at a later date;[371]

275. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the resumed fifth session of the conference for 10 working days from 20 February to 3 March 2023, with full conference services, including documentation, provision for parallel meetings and overtime, webcast and press and meeting coverage, as required, for the 10-day duration of the session;

276. *Recognizes* the abundance and diversity of marine genetic resources and their value in terms of the benefits, goods and services they can provide;

277. *Also recognizes* the importance of research on marine genetic resources for the purpose of enhancing the scientific understanding, potential use and application, and enhanced management of marine ecosystems;

278. *Notes* the work under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity[372] and the Convention on Biological Diversity elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity,[373] and, while reiterating the central role of the General Assembly relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, notes with appreciation the complementary technical and scientific work done by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

279. *Reaffirms* the need for States, individually or through competent international organizations, to urgently consider ways to integrate and improve, based on the best available scientific information and the precautionary approach and in accordance with the Convention and related agreements and instruments, the management of risks to the marine biodiversity of seamounts, cold water corals, hydrothermal vents and certain other underwater features;

280. *Invites* parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to implement the voluntary specific workplan on biodiversity in cold water areas within the jurisdictional scope of that Convention, adopted in 2016 by the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to that Convention;[374]

281. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to urgently take further action to address, in accordance with international law, destructive practices that have adverse impacts on marine biodiversity and ecosystems, including seamounts, hydrothermal vents and cold water corals;

282. *Calls upon* States to strengthen, in a manner consistent with international law, in particular the Convention, the conservation and management of marine biodiversity and ecosystems, and national policies in relation to area-based management tools, including marine protected areas;

283. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States reaffirmed the importance of area-based conservation measures, including marine protected areas, consistent with international law and based on best available scientific information, as a tool for conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components, and noted decision X/2 of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, that by 2020, 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem

[370] A/AC.287/2017/PC.4/2.

[371] See A/CONF.232/2022/9.

[372] See A/51/312, annex II, decision II/10.

[373] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/21, annex, decision VII/5, annex I.

[374] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/25, sect. I, decision XIII/11, annex II.

services, are to be conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures;[375]

284. *Encourages* States, in this regard, to further progress towards the establishment of marine protected areas, including representative networks, and calls upon States to further consider options to identify and protect ecologically or biologically significant areas, consistent with international law and on the basis of the best available scientific information;

285. *Invites* States to identify measures to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, enshrined in decision X/2 of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and takes note of the announcements made by some States in this regard;

286. *Reaffirms* the need for States to continue and intensify their efforts, directly and through competent international organizations, to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the possible establishment of marine protected areas, consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on the best scientific information available;

287. *Notes* the work of States, relevant intergovernmental organizations and bodies, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the assessment of scientific information on and compilation of ecological criteria for the identification of marine areas that may require protection, in the light of the objective of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, such as ecosystem approaches and the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention, and based on scientific information, including representative networks;

288. *Recalls* that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its ninth meeting, adopted scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats and scientific guidance for selecting areas to establish a representative network of marine protected areas, including in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats,[376] and notes the ongoing work under the Convention on Biological Diversity on the application of the scientific criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas through the organization of a series of regional workshops;

289. *Also recalls* that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has developed guidance for the identification of vulnerable marine ecosystems through the International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas, and notes its ongoing work to support application of the Guidelines by States and to maintain a database of vulnerable marine ecosystems;

290. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Sustainable Ocean Initiative under the Convention on Biological Diversity;

291. *Notes* the ongoing work of the International Maritime Organization to identify and designate as Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas marine areas which are recognized for their significance in terms of ecological, socioeconomic or scientific criteria and are vulnerable to damage by international shipping activities;[377]

292. *Notes with appreciation* the work undertaken by regional seas conventions for the conservation and sustainable management of marine biodiversity and ecosystems, also notes with appreciation the adoption of the Post-2020 Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Mediterranean Region (Post-2020 SAPBIO) and the Post-2020 Regional Strategy for marine and coastal protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures in the Mediterranean, at the twenty-second Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention and its Protocols;

293. *Acknowledges* the Micronesia Challenge, the Caribbean Challenge Initiative and the Coral Triangle Initiative, which seek to create and link domestic marine protected areas to better facilitate ecosystem approaches, notes the Phoenix Islands Protected Area as a multinational partnership, and reaffirms the need for further international cooperation, coordination and collaboration in support of such initiatives;

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[375] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

[376] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/20, annexes I and II.

[377] International Maritime Organization, Revised Guidelines for the Identification and Designation of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas, Assembly resolution A.982(24).

294. *Recalls* that, in "The future we want", States recognized the significant economic, social and environmental contributions of coral reefs, in particular to islands and other coastal States, as well as the significant vulnerability of coral reefs and mangroves to impacts, including from climate change, ocean acidification, overfishing, destructive fishing practices and pollution, and supported international cooperation with a view to conserving coral reef and mangrove ecosystems and realizing their social, economic and environmental benefits, as well as facilitating technical collaboration and voluntary information-sharing;

295. *Emphasizes* the need to mainstream sustainable coral reef management and integrated watershed management into national development strategies, as well as into the activities of relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, international financial institutions and the donor community;

296. *Reiterates its support* for the International Coral Reef Initiative, notes that the thirty-sixth International Coral Reef Initiative General Meeting was held online on 13 and 15 December 2021, and supports the elaborated programme of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity on marine and coastal biological diversity related to coral reefs under the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity;

297. *Encourages* States and relevant international institutions to improve efforts to address coral bleaching by, inter alia, improving monitoring to predict and identify bleaching events, supporting and strengthening action taken during such events and improving strategies to manage reefs to support their natural resilience and enhance their ability to withstand other pressures, including ocean acidification, and in this regard also encourages States to implement the priority actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 for coral reefs and closely associated ecosystems, adopted by the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;[378]

298. *Encourages* States to cooperate, directly or through competent international bodies, in exchanging information in the event of accidents involving vessels on coral reefs and in promoting the development of economic assessment techniques for both restoration and non-use values of coral reef systems;

299. *Notes* that ocean noise has potential significant adverse impacts on living marine resources, affirms the importance of sound scientific studies in addressing this matter, encourages further research, studies and consideration of the impacts of ocean noise on living marine resources, notes the work of States and competent international organizations in that regard, and requests the Division to continue to compile the peer-reviewed scientific studies it receives from Member States and intergovernmental organizations pursuant to paragraph 107 of resolution 61/222 and, as appropriate, to make them, or references and links to them, available on its website;

300. *Also notes* the discussions at the nineteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in 2018, on the theme of anthropogenic underwater noise, during which delegations, inter alia, expressed concern over the potential social, economic and environmental impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise due to the growth of ocean-related human activities, which has resulted in increased sound in many parts of the ocean, as well as the potential impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise on different marine species and, in view of the continuing gaps in knowledge and lack of data, stressed the urgent need for further research and international cooperation to assess and address the potential effects of anthropogenic underwater noise in all ocean areas;[379]

301. *Reiterates its call upon* States to consider appropriate cost-effective measures and approaches to assess and address the potential socioeconomic and environmental impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise, taking into account the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches and the best available scientific information, as appropriate;

302. *Encourages* further research into, and testing of, technologies to reduce the impact of underwater noise on marine life;

303. *Encourages* States to continue their work at the International Maritime Organization to enhance understanding of the extent to which improved ship technology, including efficient propeller design, could lead to reduced introduction of underwater noise in the oceans;

[378] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I, decision XII/23, annex.

[379] See A/73/124.

304. *Notes* the ongoing work at the International Maritime Organization to review the Guidelines for the Reduction of Underwater Noise from Commercial Shipping to Address Adverse Impacts on Marine Life and to develop a proposal for a programme of action to further prevent and reduce underwater radiated noise based on the findings of the review, and notes with appreciation the GloNoise project within the International Maritime Organization, which will focus on building capacity in developing States to implement the Guidelines;

305. *Encourages* States, acting through the International Maritime Organization or individually, to implement the recommended solutions to address adequately the barriers that have prevented the uptake and implementation of the current Guidelines by the industry;

XII
Marine science

306. *Calls upon* States, individually or in collaboration with each other or with competent international organizations and bodies, to continue to strive to improve understanding and knowledge of the oceans and the deep sea, including, in particular, the extent and vulnerability of deep sea biodiversity and ecosystems, by increasing their marine scientific research activities in accordance with the Convention;

307. *Encourages*, in that regard, relevant international organizations and other donors to consider supporting the Endowment Fund of the Authority in order to promote the conduct of collaborative marine scientific research in the international seabed area by supporting the participation of qualified scientists and technical personnel from developing countries in relevant programmes, initiatives and activities;

308. *Notes with concern* that human-related threats, such as marine debris, ship strikes, underwater noise, persistent contaminants, coastal development activities, oil spills and abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, together or individually, may have a severe impact on marine life, including at its higher trophic levels, and calls upon States and competent international organizations to cooperate and coordinate their research efforts in this regard so as to prevent and reduce those impacts and preserve the integrity of the whole marine ecosystem, while fully respecting the mandates of relevant international organizations;

309. *Invites* all relevant organizations, funds, programmes and bodies within the United Nations system, in consultation with interested States, to coordinate relevant activities with regional and national marine scientific and technological centres in small island developing States, as appropriate, to ensure the more effective achievement of their objectives in accordance with relevant United Nations small island developing States development programmes and strategies;

310. *Welcomes* the resolution adopted by the Assembly of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission at its twenty-eighth session, held in Paris from 18 to 25 June 2015, regarding the adoption of the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition as an important catalyst project linking Indian Ocean processes to the global ocean and atmosphere, officially launched in Goa, India, on 4 December 2015 for an initial period of five years and continued to at least 2025, invites States to participate in this initiative, and notes that two nodes of the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition Joint Project Office have been established to coordinate operations of the expedition in Perth, Australia, and Hyderabad, India;

311. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, with the advice of the Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea, on the development of procedures for the implementation of Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention;

312. *Notes* that the depth of a significant percentage of the world's oceans, seas and waterways has yet to be measured directly and that bathymetric knowledge underpins the safe, sustainable and cost-effective execution of almost every human activity in, on or under the sea;

313. *Welcomes* the work of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans under the International Hydrographic Organization and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and, in particular, the progress made, in collaboration with the Nippon Foundation, under the Seabed 2030 project towards mapping 100 per cent of the ocean floor by 2030;

314. *Encourages* Member States to consider contributing to mechanisms that encourage the widest possible availability of all bathymetric data, so as to support the sustainable development, management and governance of the marine environment;

315. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution to marine biodiversity research of the Ocean Biodiversity Information System, a free and open-access data holding and sharing facility, hosted by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

316. *Welcomes* the increasing attention being focused on oceans as a potential source of renewable energy, and notes in this regard the summary of discussions of the Informal Consultative Process at its thirteenth meeting, in 2012;[380]

317. *Stresses* the importance of the environmental impact assessment process for ocean-based renewable energy projects;

318. *Also stresses* the importance of increasing the scientific understanding of the oceans-atmosphere interface, including through participation in ocean observing programmes and geographic information systems, such as the Global Ocean Observing System, sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization and the International Science Council, particularly considering their role in monitoring and forecasting climate change and variability, in supporting Earth system prediction[381] and in the establishment and operation of tsunami warning systems;

319. *Notes* the decision adopted by the Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on 17 June 2022 entitled "Ocean observations in areas under national jurisdiction";[382]

320. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Member States towards the establishment and operation of regional and national tsunami warning and mitigation systems, also welcomes the continued collaboration of the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations in this effort, further welcomes the development and recent dissemination of the new Enhanced Tsunami Products for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System and the development of Enhanced Tsunami Products for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions, which will assist countries in the Pacific and the Caribbean to assess tsunami threats and issue warnings, and encourages Member States to establish and sustain their national warning and mitigation systems, within a global, ocean-related multi-hazard approach, as necessary, to reduce loss of life and damage to national economies and strengthen the resilience of coastal communities to natural disasters, and welcomes the establishment of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Tsunami Programme under the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030), including its Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme and Tsunami Ready Coalition, aimed at building resilient communities through awareness and preparedness strategies that will protect life, livelihoods and property from tsunamis in different regions;

321. *Stresses* the need for continued efforts in developing mitigation and preparedness measures for natural disasters, particularly following such tsunami events as that on 11 March 2011 in Japan, those on 28 September and 22 December 2018 in Indonesia, and that on 15 January 2022 following the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcanic eruption in Tonga;

322. *Takes note* of the sixth Global Environment Outlook, entitled *Healthy Planet, Healthy People*, approved on 24 January 2019, which, inter alia, identifies the principal drivers of change facing oceans and coasts and their impacts;

323. *Urges* States to take necessary action and to cooperate in relevant organizations, including the World Meteorological Organization, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, to address damage to ocean data buoys deployed and operated in accordance with international law, including through education and outreach about the importance and purpose of these buoys and by strengthening these buoys against such damage and increasing reporting of such damage;

324. *Notes* the discussions at the twentieth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, from 10 to 14 June 2019, on the theme of ocean science and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, during which delegations, inter alia, stressed the importance of marine scientific research, international cooperation

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[380] See A/67/120.

[381] See World Meteorological Organization resolution 47 (Cg-18).

[382] Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, document IOC/EC-55/Decisions, decision EC-55/3.4.

and coordination, as well as of a stronger science-policy interface in understanding and effectively addressing the unprecedented pressures on the ocean, provided input to assist in preparing for the Decade and considered that the Decade will be an important opportunity to address gaps in ocean science, increase knowledge, improve synergies and support the sustainable conservation and management of marine resources, and during which several delegations underlined the important complementary role of traditional knowledge held by Indigenous Peoples and local communities;[383]

325. *Also notes* the discussions at the twenty-second meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, from 6 to 10 June 2022, on the theme of ocean observing, during which delegations, inter alia, highlighted the importance of ocean observation data for understanding the state of the ocean and the impacts of human activities, for risk assessment, and for science-based ocean management in pursuit of sustainable development, stressed the need to fill capacity gaps, to make data widely accessible and to encourage the sharing of available data, including among Governments, researchers and the private sector, emphasized the importance of international cooperation and collaboration at all levels in this respect, including through the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, and recognized the important role of the traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in this context, and further notes that concerns were expressed on the limited capacity of many developing countries to effectively conduct and make use of ocean observations and that the importance of capacity-building was underscored;[384]

326. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to coordinate the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, a core objective of which is to improve the scientific knowledge base through capacity-building for developing countries with limited capacity and capabilities, in particular small island developing States, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, on the basis of its implementation plan, in consultation with Member States, specialized agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and relevant stakeholders;

327. *Takes note* of resolution EC-55/1 of the Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, in which the Council took note of the establishment of Decade coordinating mechanisms;[385]

328. *Requests* that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission continue to regularly consult with, and report to, Member States on the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and its implementation;

329. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to inform the General Assembly on the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development through his report on oceans and the law of the sea, on the basis of information to be provided by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;

330. *Invites* UN-Oceans and its participants to continue to collaborate with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission on the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, and in this regard notes the participation of UN-Oceans members in the Decade Advisory Board, as well as the adoption by the Authority of the action plan in support of the Decade;[386]

XIII
Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects

331. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the regular scientific assessment of the state of the marine environment in order to enhance the scientific basis for policymaking;

332. *Reaffirms* the principles guiding the Regular Process and its objective and scope, recalls the crucial importance of the Regular Process for ongoing ocean-related intergovernmental processes and its possible inputs, including for the 2030 Agenda, the development of an international legally binding instrument under the United

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[383] See A/74/119.

[384] See A/77/119.

[385] See Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, document IOC/EC-55/Decisions.

[386] See ISBA/26/A/17.

Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Informal Consultative Process, and the preparation of an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, among other relevant processes, and notes the importance of continuing support and cooperation between the activities of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and those of the Regular Process;

333. *Recalls* the importance of ensuring that assessments, such as those included in the Global Sustainable Development Report and those prepared under the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Regular Process, support one another and avoid unnecessary duplication, and also recalls the importance of compatibility and synergies between such assessments and assessments at the regional level;

334. *Reaffirms* that capacity-building is one of the core objectives of the Regular Process and that, during the third cycle (2021–2025), a coherent programme on capacity-building will be carried out with the aim to develop the capacities of States in strengthening the ocean science-policy interface at the national, regional and global levels;

335. *Recalls* that the Regular Process shall be overseen and guided by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole, and that the Ad Hoc Working Group shall facilitate the delivery of the outputs of the third cycle of the Regular Process as outlined in the programme of work for the third cycle, and endorses the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group at its seventeenth meeting on the progress in the implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle;

336. *Recognizes* the importance of raising awareness of the second *World Ocean Assessment* and the Regular Process, and welcomes the social media campaign on the Assessment and the wider awareness-raising campaign of the Regular Process;

337. *Recognizes with appreciation* the role of the Co-Chairs and the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole in putting into practice the decisions and guidance of the Ad Hoc Working Group during the intersessional period, requests the Bureau to continue to provide oversight of the delivery of the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process, and recognizes the support provided by the secretariat in that regard;

338. *Welcomes* the designation by States of national focal points, and invites States that have not yet done so to designate national focal points to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process and beyond;

339. *Also welcomes* the designation of intergovernmental focal points, and invites the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions that have not yet done so to designate focal points to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process and beyond;

340. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Maritime Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Meteorological Organization and relevant United Nations system organizations, bodies, funds and programmes, as appropriate, to assist in the implementation of the third cycle of the Regular Process;

341. *Invites* relevant intergovernmental organizations to contribute, as appropriate, to the activities of the third cycle of the Regular Process;

342. *Welcomes* the constitution of the Group of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process, which currently consists of 22 members, and notes with appreciation the work being carried out by the members of the Group of Experts in the implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle;

343. *Recalls* that the Group of Experts for the third cycle of the Regular Process shall comprise a maximum of 25 experts, with no more than five experts per regional group, and encourages regional groups that have appointed fewer than five experts to continue to appoint experts to the Group of Experts, taking into account the need to ensure adequate expertise, gender balance and geographical distribution;

344. *Endorses* the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole at its sixteenth meeting on the four brief documents on the second *World Ocean Assessment*, and the preliminary timetable and implementation plan for the third cycle of the Regular Process;

345. *Takes note* of the four brief documents on the second *World Ocean Assessment* on climate change; Sustainable Development Goal 14; the United Nations Decades on Ecosystem Restoration and on Ocean Science for Sustainable Development; and marine biodiversity;

346. *Recognizes with appreciation* the work of the members of the Group of Experts of the Regular Process with respect to the preparation of the four brief documents;

347. *Notes* the endorsement by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of the Guidelines for the Writing and Review Process of the next Assessment(s) of the Third Cycle and the Guidelines for the Nomination and Appointment of Experts to the Pool of Experts, Writing Teams and Peer Reviewers to Support the Works of the Third Cycle of the Regular Process developed by the Group of Experts in accordance with the programme of work for the third cycle;

348. *Encourages* the appointment of experts to the Pool of Experts in accordance with the mechanism, and requests the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole to provide oversight of the establishment of the Pool of Experts;

349. *Welcomes* the regional workshops in support of the third cycle of the Regular Process, held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, in July 2022, in Kingston in September 2022, in Buenos Aires in September 2022, in The Hague in November 2022, and in Belitung, Indonesia, in December 2022, which informed the scoping exercise and the preparation of the annotated outline of the next assessment or assessments to be produced during the third cycle and also built capacity aimed at strengthening the ocean science-policy interface;

350. *Recognizes* the need for early preparation of the regional workshops to be held in 2023 as outlined in the programme of work for the third cycle of the Regular Process, and invites States to consider hosting such workshops and inform the secretariat of their intent as early as possible;

351. *Urges* States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the voluntary trust fund and to make other contributions to the Regular Process;

352. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in 2023, up to two meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole of no more than two days of total duration each, one in the first half of 2023 and another in the second half, and, in 2024, up to two meetings of the Ad Hoc Working Group of no more than two days of total duration each;

XIV
Regional cooperation

353. *Notes with appreciation* efforts and initiatives at the regional level, in various regions, to further the implementation of the Convention and to respond, including through capacity-building, to issues related to maritime safety and security, the conservation and sustainable use of living marine resources, the protection and preservation of the marine environment and the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity;

354. *Invites* States and international organizations to enhance their cooperation to better protect the marine environment;

355. *Notes* the Caribbean-focused Assistance Fund, which is intended to facilitate, mainly through technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, notes once again the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes, established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these funds;

356. *Recalls* the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway[387] and the modalities set forth for strengthened action

[387] Resolution 69/15, annex.

on a range of small island developing States challenges and priorities, including challenges related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, and the preservation of the marine environment, and in this regard welcomes the convening of the high-level midterm review of the Samoa Pathway in September 2019 and the adoption of its political declaration,[388] which notes the importance of oceans, seas and marine resources to small island developing States and acknowledges their efforts to develop and implement strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources, and reaffirms its commitment to work with small island developing States towards the full implementation of the Samoa Pathway to ensure its success;

357. *Recognizes* the results of the International Polar Year, 2007–2008 with particular emphasis on new knowledge about the linkages between environmental change in the polar regions and global climate systems, and encourages States and scientific communities to strengthen their cooperation in this respect;

358. *Acknowledges* the important contributions to scientific understanding of the marine environment and its resources, as well as the scientific advice for their sustainable use, provided by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea in its wide-ranging cooperation with organizations at the regional level under the Convention for the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, 1964;[389]

359. *Welcomes* regional cooperation, and in this regard notes the Pacific Oceanscape Framework as an initiative to enhance cooperation among coastal States in the Pacific island region to foster marine conservation and sustainable development;

360. *Recalls*, in this regard, the endorsement of the Pacific Islands Forum leaders on 6 August 2021 at the fifty-first Pacific Islands Forum of a declaration on preserving maritime zones in the face of climate change-related sea level rise, and of the Heads of State and Government of the Alliance of Small Island States on 22 September 2021 of the Leaders' Declaration addressing, inter alia, the relationship between climate change-related sea level rise and Forum and Alliance members' maritime zones in response to long-standing concerns in the face of climate change-related sea level rise;

361. *Notes with appreciation* the various cooperative efforts displayed by States at the regional and subregional levels, and in this regard welcomes initiatives, such as the Integrated Assessment and Management of the Gulf of Mexico Large Marine Ecosystem;

362. *Acknowledges* relevant cooperation among the members of the Zone of Peace and Cooperation of the South Atlantic;

363. *Recalls* the decision of the Assembly of the African Union in January 2015 to adopt Agenda 2063, also recalls that the African Union launched the Decade of African Seas and Oceans (2015–2025), and notes that the African Day of the Seas and Oceans is celebrated annually on 25 July;

364. *Also recalls* the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014,[390] following the comprehensive 10-year review of the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[391] notes the need for cooperation to address the development needs and challenges faced by landlocked developing countries associated with, inter alia, their lack of direct territorial access to the sea, remoteness and isolation from world markets, in line with the objectives of the Vienna Programme of Action, and recalls the adoption of the road map for the accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in the remaining five years;

365. *Notes* the efforts of the Sargasso Sea Commission, led by the Government of Bermuda, to raise awareness of the ecological significance of the Sargasso Sea;

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[388] Resolution 74/3.

[389] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 652, No. 9344.

[390] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[391] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

366. *Also notes* the Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation, negotiated under the auspices of the Arctic Council, and notes that its implementation will increase the development of scientific knowledge about the region;

367. *Further notes* the cooperation between the OSPAR Commission established by the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic[392] and the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission;

XV
Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

368. *Welcomes* the report of the Co-Chairs on the work of the Informal Consultative Process at its twenty-second meeting, which focused on the theme of ocean observing;

369. *Recognizes* the role of the Informal Consultative Process as a unique forum for comprehensive discussions on issues related to oceans and the law of the sea, consistent with the framework provided by the Convention and chapter 17 of Agenda 21, and that the perspective of the three pillars of sustainable development should be further enhanced in the examination of the selected topics;

370. *Welcomes* the work of the Informal Consultative Process and its contribution to improving coordination and cooperation between States and strengthening the annual debate of the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea by effectively drawing attention to key issues and current trends;

371. *Also welcomes* efforts to improve and focus the work of the Informal Consultative Process, and in that respect recognizes the primary role of the Informal Consultative Process in integrating knowledge, the exchange of opinions among multiple stakeholders and coordination among competent agencies, and enhancing awareness of topics, including emerging issues, while promoting the three pillars of sustainable development;

372. *Recalls* the need to strengthen and improve the efficiency of the Informal Consultative Process, and encourages States, intergovernmental organizations and programmes to provide guidance to the Co-Chairs to this effect, particularly before and during the preparatory meeting for the Informal Consultative Process;

373. *Also recalls* its decision to further review the effectiveness and utility of the Informal Consultative Process at its seventy-eighth session;

374. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 54/33, the twenty-third meeting of the Informal Consultative Process, in New York for eight meetings during the week of 5 to 9 June 2023, to provide it with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work, including documentation, to also convene an informal preparatory meeting, and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, as appropriate;

375. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide support for the convening of a twenty-fourth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process for eight meetings in 2024, in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 54/33, with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work, including documentation, without prejudice to the review of its effectiveness and utility by the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

376. *Expresses its continued serious concern* regarding the lack of resources available in the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of assisting developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing States, in attending the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process, and urges States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make additional contributions to the trust fund;

377. *Decides* that those representatives from developing countries who are invited by the Co-Chairs, in consultation with Governments, to make presentations during the meetings of the Informal Consultative Process shall receive priority consideration in the disbursement of funds from the voluntary trust fund established pursuant to resolution 55/7 in order to cover their costs of travel and daily subsistence allowance;

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[392] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2354, No. 42279.

378. *Also decides* that, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, the Informal Consultative Process shall focus its discussions at its twenty-third meeting, in 2023, on the theme "New maritime technologies: challenges and opportunities";

XVI
Coordination and cooperation

379. *Encourages* States to work closely with and through international organizations, funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and relevant international conventions, to identify emerging areas of focus for improved coordination and cooperation and how best to address these issues;

380. *Expresses its concern* at the desecration of graves at sea and the looting of wrecks of ships constituting such graves, and calls upon States to cooperate, as appropriate, to prevent the looting and desecration of wrecks of ships constituting graves in order to ensure that proper respect is given to all human remains located in maritime waters, consistent with international law, including, as appropriate, the 2001 Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, among parties thereto;

381. *Encourages* bodies established by the Convention to strengthen coordination and cooperation, as appropriate, in fulfilling their respective mandates;

382. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, as well as funding institutions, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

383. *Welcomes* the work done by the secretariats of relevant United Nations specialized agencies, programmes, funds and bodies and the secretariats of related organizations and conventions to enhance inter-agency coordination and cooperation on ocean issues, including, where appropriate, through UN-Oceans, the inter-agency coordination mechanism on ocean and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

384. *Recognizes* the work undertaken by UN-Oceans, in particular the inventory of mandates and the development of a draft methodology for the indicator for target 14.c of the 2030 Agenda, under the revised terms of reference for the work of UN-Oceans, and with the United Nations Legal Counsel/the Division as the focal point of UN-Oceans, and, as an interim measure, in this regard invites States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial earmarked contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and authorizes the Secretary-General to disburse funds from such contributions to that trust fund for the purposes of the maintenance of an online searchable database for an inventory of the mandates of UN-Oceans members and priorities approved by the respective governing bodies of the participating organizations of UN-Oceans, with a view to identifying possible areas of collaboration and synergy, as well as for travel associated with the performance of the functions of the focal point;

XVII
Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

385. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual reports on oceans and the law of the sea, prepared by the Division, as well as for the other activities of the Division, which reflect the high standard of assistance provided to Member States by the Division;

386. *Notes with satisfaction* the fourteenth observance by the United Nations of World Oceans Day, in 2022,[393] recognizes with appreciation the efforts deployed by the Division in this regard, invites States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to support the future observance of World Oceans Day, including by making voluntary financial or other contributions, and invites the Division to continue to promote and facilitate international cooperation on the law

[393] By its resolution 63/111, the General Assembly designated 8 June as World Oceans Day.

of the sea and ocean affairs in the context of the future observance of World Oceans Day, as well as through its participation in other events;

387. *Recalls* the responsibilities and functions entrusted to the Secretary-General in the Convention and in the related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, notes the increased number of requests to the Division for additional outputs and servicing of meetings and in relation to the support to be provided by the Division as secretariat of the Regular Process during the third cycle of the Regular Process, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the allocation of appropriate resources to the Division for the performance of its activities under the approved budget for the Organization;

388. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the publication activities of the Division, in particular through a publication on marine geospatial information management[394] and the publication of the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*;

XVIII
Seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly

389. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare reports for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, namely a report on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, including the implementation of the present resolution, in accordance with resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and a report on the theme that is the focus of the twenty-third meeting of the Informal Consultative Process;

390. *Emphasizes* the critical role of the annual reports of the Secretary-General, which integrate information on developments relating to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the Organization, its specialized agencies and other institutions in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the global and regional levels, and as a result constitute the basis for the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review;

391. *Notes* that the reports referred to in paragraph 389 above will also be submitted to States Parties pursuant to article 319 of the Convention regarding issues of a general nature that have arisen with respect to the Convention;

392. *Also notes* the desire to further improve the efficiency of and effective participation of delegations in the informal consultations concerning the annual General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea, decides that the period of the informal consultations on that resolution should not exceed a maximum of eight days in total and that the consultations should be scheduled in such a way that the Division has sufficient time to produce the report on developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea referred to in paragraph 389 above, requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide support to the consultations through the Division, and encourages States to submit proposals for the resolution to the Coordinator of the informal consultations no later than one week before the first day of the first round of the informal consultations;

393. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

RESOLUTION 77/252

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/77/L.31, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname,

[394] This replaces the publication marking the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the Convention.

Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zambia

77/252. Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1759 (XVII) of 26 October 1962, 69/246 of 29 December 2014, 70/11 of 19 November 2015, 71/260 of 23 December 2016, 72/252 of 24 December 2017 and 74/248 of 27 December 2019,

Underlining the shared responsibility to pursue the full truth concerning the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him,

Recognizing that a further inquiry or investigation would be necessary to finally establish the facts of the matter,

Expressing appreciation for the continuing commitment of the Secretary-General to the search for the truth in this regard,

Welcoming the report of the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/248,[395] and recognizing the contributions by Member States to his work, in particular those that have appointed independent and high-ranking officials,

Acknowledging the letter dated 25 August 2022 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly, transmitting the report of the Eminent Person, together with his assessment of the way forward,[396]

Noting, in particular, the conclusion drawn by the Eminent Person that it remains plausible that an external attack or threat may have been the cause of the crash, whether by way of a direct attack causing flight SE-BDY to crash or by distracting the pilots,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reappoint the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/248 to continue to review the information received and possible new information made available by Member States, including by individuals and private entities, to assess its probative value and to draw conclusions from the investigations already conducted;

2. *Urges* all Member States, in particular those referred to in the report, to release any relevant records in their possession and to provide to the Eminent Person and the Secretary-General relevant information related to the death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him, and to ensure that they have conducted a full review of their archives and records;

3. *Calls upon* those Member States referred to in the report to cooperate with and assist the Eminent Person fully, including by appointing without delay independent and high-ranking officials to determine whether relevant information exists within their security, intelligence and defence archives, and encourages the Eminent Person to remain engaged with all high-ranking officials, including those who have concluded their work;

4. *Encourages* all Member States to make assistance available to the Eminent Person, as may be appropriate, on a voluntary basis to assist in specific tasks that require completion at the request of the Eminent Person;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to encourage individuals and private entities to ensure that any relevant records related to the death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him are made available for review by the Eminent Person;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to work towards making key documents of the Dag Hammarskjöld investigation, as identified by the Eminent Person, publicly available through a dedicated online collection;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly before the end of its seventy-eighth session on progress made;

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[395] See A/76/892.

[396] Ibid.

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled "Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him".

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RESOLUTION 77/33

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/376, para. 7)[1]

77/33. Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/72 of 4 December 1998, 54/43 of 1 December 1999, 56/14 of 29 November 2001, 58/28 of 8 December 2003, 60/44 of 8 December 2005, 62/13 of 5 December 2007, 64/22 of 2 December 2009, 66/20 of 2 December 2011, 68/23 of 5 December 2013, 70/21 of 7 December 2015, 72/20 of 4 December 2017 and 74/24 of 12 December 2019 on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures,

Recalling also its resolution 35/142 B of 12 December 1980, which introduced the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures, its resolutions 48/62 of 16 December 1993, 49/66 of 15 December 1994, 51/38 of 10 December 1996 and 52/32 of 9 December 1997, in which the General Assembly called upon all Member States to participate in the system, and its resolution 47/54 B of 9 December 1992, in which the Assembly endorsed the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters and invited Member States to provide the Secretary-General with relevant information regarding their implementation,

Noting that, since then, national reports on military expenditures and on the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters have been submitted by a number of Member States belonging to different geographical regions,

Convinced that transparency in military matters is an essential element for building a climate of trust and confidence between States worldwide and that a better flow of objective information on military matters can help to relieve international tension and is therefore an important contribution to conflict prevention,

Noting the role of the standardized reporting system, as instituted through its resolution 35/142 B, as an important instrument to enhance transparency in military matters,

Conscious that the value of the standardized reporting system would be further enhanced by a broader participation of all Member States,

Noting that a periodic review of the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures could facilitate its further development and maintain its continued relevance and operation, and recalling that, in its resolution 66/20, the General Assembly recommended the establishment of a process for periodic reviews,

Recalling, in that regard, the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, including, in particular, on how to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system,[2]

Recalling also the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the Operation and Further Development of the United Nations Standardized Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures on further ways and means to implement the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters, including, in particular, on how to strengthen and broaden participation in the standardized reporting system,[3]

Welcoming the interactive web platform of the Secretariat on military expenditures, which includes an online reporting feature, thus increasing user-friendliness and facilitating the submission of reports,[4] in accordance with resolution 66/20,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Türkiye.

[2] A/54/298.

[3] A/66/89, A/66/89/Corr.1, A/66/89/Corr.2 and A/66/89/Corr.3.

[4] See www.un.org/disarmament/milex.

Noting the efforts of several regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures, including standardized annual exchanges of relevant information among their member States,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the Report on Military Expenditures under the current political and economic circumstances,

Recalling that, in its resolution 66/20, the General Assembly recommended that, for the purpose of reporting by Member States of their national military expenditures in the framework of the Report on Military Expenditures, "military expenditures" be commonly understood to refer to all financial resources that a State spends on the uses and functions of its military forces and information on military expenditures represents an actual outlay in current prices and domestic currency,

Mindful of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, including its Article 26,

1. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving the broadest possible participation, to provide the Secretary-General, by 30 April annually, with a report on their military expenditures for the latest fiscal year for which data are available, using, preferably and to the extent possible, one of the online reporting forms, including, if appropriate, a nil report or the "single figure" report on military expenditures or any other format developed in the context of similar reporting on military expenditures to other international or regional organizations;

2. *Recommends* the guidelines and recommendations for objective information on military matters to all Member States for implementation, fully taking into account specific political, military and other conditions prevailing in a region;

3. *Invites* Member States to supplement their reports with explanatory remarks regarding submitted data to explain or clarify the figures provided in the reporting forms, such as the total military expenditures as a share of gross domestic product, major changes from previous reports and any additional information reflecting their defence policy, military strategies and doctrines;

4. *Also invites* Member States to provide, with their annual report, information on their national points of contact;

5. *Encourages* relevant international bodies and regional organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to enhance complementarities among reporting systems, taking into account the particular characteristics of each region, and to consider the possibility of an exchange of information with the United Nations;

6. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Secretary-General;[5]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within available resources:

(a) To continue the practice of sending an annual note verbale to Member States requesting the submission of their report on military expenditures;

(b) To circulate annually a note verbale to Member States detailing which reports on military expenditures were submitted and are available online;

(c) To continue consultations with relevant international bodies, with a view to ascertaining requirements for adjusting the present instrument in order to encourage wider participation, and to make recommendations, based on the outcome of those consultations and taking into account the views of Member States, on necessary changes to the content and structure of the standardized reporting system;

(d) To encourage relevant international bodies and organizations to promote transparency of military expenditures and to consult with those bodies and organizations with emphasis on examining possibilities for enhancing complementarities among international and regional reporting systems and for exchanging related information between those bodies and the United Nations;

(e) To continue to foster further cooperation with relevant regional organizations, with a view to raising awareness of the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures and its role as a confidence-building measure;

[5] A/77/159.

(f) To encourage the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Asia and the Pacific and in Latin America and the Caribbean to assist Member States in their regions in enhancing their knowledge of the standardized reporting system;

(g) To promote international and regional or subregional symposiums and training seminars and to support the development of an online training course by the Secretariat, with the financial and technical support of interested States, with a view to explaining the purpose of the standardized reporting system and facilitating the secure online filing of the reports;

(h) To report on experiences gained during such symposiums and training seminars;

(i) To provide, upon request, technical assistance to Member States lacking the capacity to report data and to encourage Member States to voluntarily provide bilateral assistance to other Member States;

8. *Encourages* Member States:

(a) To inform the Secretary-General about possible problems with the standardized reporting system and their reasons for not submitting the requested data;

(b) To continue to provide the Secretary-General with their views and suggestions on ways and means to improve the future functioning of and broadened participation in the standardized reporting system, including necessary changes to its content and structure, as well as recommendations to facilitate its further development;

9. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter of the possible establishment of a process of periodic reviews of the Report on Military Expenditures, taking into account the information referred to in paragraph 8 above;

10. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session, under the item entitled "Reduction of military budgets", the sub-item entitled "Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures".

RESOLUTION 77/34

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/377, para. 7)[6]

77/34. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/53 of 10 December 1996 and 56/17 of 29 November 2001 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity and of the African Union,

Recalling also the signing of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) in Cairo on 11 April 1996,[7]

Recalling further the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,[8] in which it was emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

Recalling the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,[9] in which the Council affirmed that the signature of the Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

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[6] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Portugal, Republic of Moldova and Türkiye.

[7] A/50/426, annex.

[8] A/51/113-S/1996/276, annex.

[9] S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council*, *1996* (S/INF/52).

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Recalls with satisfaction* the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) on 15 July 2009;

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible;

3. *Recalls* the convening of the first Conference of States Parties to the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), on 4 November 2010, the second Conference of States Parties, on 12 and 13 November 2012, the third Conference of States Parties, on 29 and 30 May 2014, the fourth Conference of States Parties, on 14 and 15 March 2018, and the fifth Conference of States Parties, on 17 and 18 May 2022, all held in Addis Ababa;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols to the Treaty[10] that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols that concern them to do so as soon as possible;

5. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all measures necessary to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

6. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[11] that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (b) and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba, and encourages them to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the model protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;

7. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

RESOLUTION 77/35

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/378, para. 7)[12]

77/35. Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[13] was opened for signature in Mexico City on 14 February 1967,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 2286 (XXII) of 5 December 1967, it welcomed with special satisfaction the Treaty of Tlatelolco as an event of historic significance in the efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to promote international peace and security,

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[10] See A/50/426, annex.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[12] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

Recalling further that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco states that militarily denuclearized zones are not an end in themselves but rather a means for achieving general and complete disarmament at a later stage,

Recalling that, in its preamble, the Treaty of Tlatelolco notes that the establishment of militarily denuclearized zones is closely linked with the maintenance of peace and security in the respective regions and that the military denuclearization of vast geographical zones, adopted by the sovereign decision of the States comprised therein, will exercise a beneficial influence on other regions where similar conditions exist,

Considering that, 55 years following its adoption, the Treaty of Tlatelolco remains a living instrument and a source of inspiration for the creation of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Taking note of the proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a zone of peace by the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States at its second summit, held in Havana on 28 and 29 January 2014, and the commitment undertaken in this context by the States of the region to continue to promote nuclear disarmament as a priority objective,[14]

Highlighting the fact that the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which is in force for all 33 sovereign States of the region, consolidated the first nuclear-weapon-free zone established in a densely populated region,

Recognizing the important contribution of the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga,[15] Bangkok[16] and Pelindaba[17] and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia,[18] as well as the Antarctic Treaty[19] and the declaration by Mongolia of its nuclear-weapon-free status, to the achievement of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament,

Recalling all relevant United Nations resolutions in support of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Highlighting the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zones, including through the holding of joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to the treaties establishing such zones,

Welcoming the convening of Conferences of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia and their contribution to achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Noting that the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in its Final Document,[20] encouraged the establishment of new nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among States of the region concerned and the fostering of cooperation and enhanced consultation mechanisms among the existing nuclear-weapon-free zones through the establishment of concrete measures, in order to fully implement the principles and objectives of the relevant nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties, and commended the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean for its leadership in this field,

Reaffirming the importance of the Agency as the appropriate legal and political forum for ensuring full compliance with and implementation of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, as well as cooperation with the entities of other nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Recalling that its resolution 73/71 of 5 December 2018 decided to convene the fourth Conference of Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia as a one-day conference at United Nations Headquarters in New York, on a date yet to be determined,

Recalling also its resolution 74/27 of 12 December 2019,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) is in force for all sovereign States of the region;

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[14] See A/68/914, annex.

[15] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[17] A/50/426, annex.

[18] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2970, No. 51633.

[19] Ibid., vol. 402, No. 5778.

[20] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that the year 2022 marks the fifty-third anniversary of the entry into force, on 25 April 1969, of the Treaty of Tlatelolco and of the establishment of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean;

3. *Welcomes with satisfaction* the memorandum of understanding signed between the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and the African Commission on Nuclear Energy on 1 December 2021, and encourages both regions to advance in its full and effective implementation with the objective of fostering cooperation and consultation mechanisms;

4. *Encourages once again* States parties to Additional Protocols I and II to the Treaty of Tlatelolco[21] to review their interpretative declarations thereto, in accordance with action 9 of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[22] reaffirming and recognizing the legitimate interests of the States that comprise the nuclear-weapon-free zone in Latin America and the Caribbean in receiving full and unequivocal security assurances from the nuclear-weapon States;

5. *Encourages* the States members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean to continue the activities and efforts that they conduct jointly with the Agency, inter alia:

(a) To support the efforts that are being undertaken in a multilateral context to identify and seek effective measures that favour compliance with disarmament and non-proliferation commitments;

(b) To enhance cooperation with States parties and signatories to treaties that establish nuclear-weapon-free zones and Mongolia;

(c) To promote activities on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session the item entitled "Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)".

RESOLUTION 77/36

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 112 to 52, with 8 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/380, para. 11)[23]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Chile, Colombia, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Serbia, Singapore

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[21] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[22] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*, section I, entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

[23] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

77/36. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/103 of 9 December 1981, 43/78 H of 7 December 1988, 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012, 68/243 of 27 December 2013, 69/28 of 2 December 2014, 70/237 of 23 December 2015, 71/28 of 5 December 2016, 73/27 of 5 December 2018, 74/29 of 12 December 2019, 75/240 of 31 December 2020 and 76/19 of 6 December 2021,

Stressing that it is in the interest of all States to promote the use of information and communications technologies for peaceful purposes, with the objective of shaping a community of shared future for humankind for peace, security and stability in the information space, and that States also have an interest in preventing conflict arising from the use of such technologies,

Recognizing that the dissemination and use of information and communications technologies affect the interests of the entire global community and that broad international cooperation leads to the most effective universal responses to address information and communications technology threats and promotes an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment,

Reaffirming that, given the unique attributes of information and communications technologies, additional norms could be developed over time, and, separately, noting the possibility of future elaboration of additional binding obligations,

Noting that capacity-building is essential for international security, cooperation of States and confidence-building in the field of information and communications technology security and that capacity-building measures should seek to promote the use of information and communications technologies for peaceful purposes, and that further focused discussions within the Open-ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025 on funding specifically for capacity-building efforts on security in the use of information and communications technologies are needed,

Reaffirming that the United Nations should continue to play a leading role in promoting dialogue on the use of information and communications technologies by States,

Underlining the importance for the global community of shaping a system of international information security and continuing a democratic, inclusive, transparent and results-oriented negotiation process within the Open-ended Working Group, while recognizing its centrality as the mechanism within the United Nations for dialogue on security in the use of information and communications technologies,

Welcoming the efforts of the Chair of the Open-ended Working Group to forge consensus among States on the common goal of ensuring an open, stable, secure, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment,

1. *Supports* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025 in accordance with its mandate, as enshrined in General Assembly resolution 75/240;

2. *Welcomes* the adoption by consensus of the first annual progress report of the Open-ended Working Group,[24] and takes note of the compendium of statements in explanation of position on its adoption;[25]

3. *Calls upon* States to further engage constructively in the negotiations during formal and intersessional meetings of the Open-ended Working Group, which, pursuant to its mandate, will present recommendations, adopted by consensus, to the General Assembly;

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[24] A/77/275.

[25] A/AC.292/2022/INF/4.

4. *Confirms* that, in considering different proposals on all aspects of the mandate of the Open-ended Working Group, the views, concerns and interests of all States should be taken into account, and recommends that these proposals be further elaborated within the Open-ended Working Group;

5. *Encourages* Member States to continue exchanging views at the Open-ended Working Group on regular institutional dialogue on security in the use of information and communications technologies, with the objective of elaborating a common understanding on the most effective format for future regular institutional dialogue with the broad participation of States under United Nations auspices to be established upon conclusion of the work of the Open-ended Working Group 2021–2025;

6. *Invites* Member States to share within the Open-ended Working Group their views on capacity-building needs, as well as possible mechanisms to meet them, including funding;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

RESOLUTION 77/37

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 156 to 7, with 14 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/380, para. 11)[26]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Central African Republic, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

Abstaining: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Tajikistan, Viet Nam

77/37. Programme of action to advance responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/78 H of 7 December 1988, 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012, 68/243 of 27 December 2013, 69/28 of 2 December 2014, 70/237 of 23 December 2015, 71/28 of

[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Zambia.

5 December 2016, 73/27 of 5 December 2018, 73/266 of 22 December 2018, 74/28 and 74/29 of 12 December 2019, 75/32 of 7 December 2020, 75/240 of 31 December 2020 and 76/19 of 6 December 2021,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Recognizing that the dissemination and use of information and communications technologies affect the interests of the entire global community and that broad international cooperation would lead to the most effective responses,

Expressing concern that information technologies and means of telecommunication can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States, to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

Expressing concern also about malicious information and communications technology activities aimed at critical infrastructure and critical information infrastructure facilities supporting essential services to the public,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Stressing that it is in the interest of all States to seek the settlement of disputes by peaceful means, and to promote the use of information and communications technologies for peaceful purposes and to prevent conflicts arising from the use of information and communications technologies,

Underlining the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

Highlighting the necessity of bridging digital divides, building resilience in every society and sector, and maintaining a human-centric approach,

Recalling the assessments and recommendations of the 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2021 groups of governmental experts, as well as those of the 2021 Open-ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security,[27] and the first annual progress report of the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025,[28] in particular the cumulative and evolving framework for responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies elaborated by these processes,

Calling upon Member States to be guided in their use of information and communications technologies by the 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2021 reports of the Group of Governmental Experts and the 2021 report of the Open-ended Working Group,

Recalling the conclusion of the above-mentioned reports that international law, and in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment,

Reaffirming that voluntary, non-binding norms of responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies can reduce risks to international peace, security and stability, and do not seek to limit or prohibit action that is otherwise consistent with international law but nonetheless to set standards for responsible State behaviour, while also reaffirming that, given the unique attributes of information and communications technologies, additional norms could be developed over time and, separately, noting the possibility of future elaboration of additional binding obligations, if appropriate,

Recalling that confidence-building measures in the field of information and communications technology security can contribute to preventing conflicts, avoiding misperceptions, misunderstandings and the reduction of tensions, and that regional and subregional organizations have made significant efforts in developing confidence-building measures,

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[27] See A/65/201, A/68/98, A/70/174, A/75/816 and A/76/135.

[28] See A/77/275.

Supporting the open-ended working group 2021–2025, and further encouraging it to take into account the outcomes of the previous Open-ended Working Group and the groups of governmental experts and add to the efforts undertaken by them,

Underlining the complementarity of the proposal for a programme of action with the work of the current open-ended working group 2021–2025,

Reaffirming that any future mechanism for regular institutional dialogue under the auspices of the United Nations should be an action-oriented process with specific objectives, building on previous outcomes, and be inclusive, transparent, consensus-driven and results-based,

Recognizing the utility of exploring mechanisms dedicated to following up on the implementation of the agreed norms and rules as well as the development of further ones,

Stressing the urgent need to assist States in their efforts to implement the framework for responsible State behaviour and tackle emerging threats in the information and communications technology environment, as the ever-evolving properties and characteristics of new and emerging technologies expand the attack surface, creating new vectors and vulnerabilities that can be exploited for malicious information and communications technology activity,

Emphasizing that capacity-building is essential for cooperation of States and confidence-building in the field of information and communications technology security, and that capacity-building in relation to State use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security should be guided by the principles for capacity-building included the 2021 final report of the Open-ended Working Group,

Reaffirming that the United Nations should continue to play a leading role in promoting dialogue on the use of information and communications technologies by States,

Emphasizing the value of further strengthening collaboration, when appropriate, with civil society, the private sector, academia and the technical community, to strengthen security and stability in the information and communications technology environment,

Encouraging States to, on a voluntary basis, survey or report on their national efforts to implement rules, norms and principles, including through the report of the Secretary-General on developments in the field of information and communications technologies in the context of international security as well as the National Survey of Implementation,

Underlining the importance of narrowing the "gender digital divide" and of promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of women in decision-making processes related to the use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security,

Welcoming the recommendation by the open-ended working group 2021–2025 in its first annual progress report that States engage in discussions on the scope, structure and content of the programme of action at the fourth and fifth substantive sessions of the open-ended working group,

1. *Welcomes* the proposal to establish a United Nations programme of action to advance responsible State behaviour in the use of information and communications technologies in the context of international security, as a permanent, inclusive, action-oriented mechanism to discuss existing and potential threats; to support States' capacities and efforts to implement and advance commitments to be guided by the framework for responsible State behaviour, which includes voluntary, non-binding norms for the application of international law to the use of information and communications technologies by States, confidence-building and capacity building measures, as affirmed in General Assembly resolution 76/19, the 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2021 reports of the groups of governmental experts, the 2021 report of the Open-ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and the first annual progress report of the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025; to discuss, and further develop if appropriate, this framework; to promote engagement and cooperation with relevant stakeholders; and to periodically review the progress made in the implementation of the programme of action as well as the programme's future work;

2. *Underlines* that the programme of action is to take into account the consensus outcomes adopted by the open-ended working group 2021–2025;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources and through voluntary contributions, to seek the views of Member States on the scope, structure and content for the programme of action, and the preparatory work and modalities for its establishment, including at an international conference, taking into account General Assembly resolution 76/19, the 2010, 2013, 2015 and 2021 consensus reports of the groups of governmental experts, the 2021 report of the Open-ended Working Group, the first annual progress report of the open-ended working group 2021–2025, the views and contributions submitted by Member States in the framework of the open-ended working group 2021–2025 and the regional consultations held in accordance with paragraph 4 of the present resolution, and to submit a report based on those views to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and for further discussion between Member States in the meetings of the open-ended working group 2021–2025;

4. *Requests* the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, within existing resources and through voluntary contributions, to collaborate with relevant regional organizations whose members are also States Members of the United Nations to convene a series of consultations to share views on the programme of action;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

RESOLUTION 77/38

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 175 to 1, with 2 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/381, para. 7)[29]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Singapore, United States of America

77/38. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000, 56/21 of 29 November 2001, 57/55 of 22 November 2002, 58/34 of 8 December 2003, 59/63 of 3 December 2004, 60/52 of 8 December 2005, 61/56 of 6 December 2006, 62/18 of 5 December 2007, 63/38 of 2 December 2008, 64/26 of 2 December 2009, 65/42 of 8 December 2010, 66/25 of 2 December 2011, 67/28 of

[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

3 December 2012, 68/27 of 5 December 2013, 69/29 of 2 December 2014, 70/24 of 7 December 2015, 71/29 of 5 December 2016, 72/24 of 4 December 2017, 73/28 of 5 December 2018, 74/30 of 12 December 2019, 75/33 of 7 December 2020 and 76/20 of 6 December 2021 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (d), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[30]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, in which all parties directly concerned are called upon to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 76/20,[31]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned seriously to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[32]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not yet done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(66)/RES/12, adopted on 29 September 2022 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its sixty-sixth regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

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[30] Resolution S-10/2.

[31] A/77/153 (Part I).

[32] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (d) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 76/20;

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990[33] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 77/39

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 120 to none, with 60 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/382, para. 7)[34]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands,

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[33] A/45/435.

[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, Eritrea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

77/39. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to humankind and to the survival of civilization,

Noting that the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament should be translated into concrete actions for the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[35] in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[36] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[37] and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session, the third special session devoted to disarmament,[38] as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[39]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, in which it is stated, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[40] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

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[35] Resolution S-10/2.

[36] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

[38] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[39] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

[40] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), sect. III.E.

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[41] which was reiterated at the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999, 55/31 of 20 November 2000, 56/22 of 29 November 2001, 57/56 of 22 November 2002, 58/35 of 8 December 2003, 59/64 of 3 December 2004, 60/53 of 8 December 2005, 61/57 of 6 December 2006, 62/19 of 5 December 2007, 63/39 of 2 December 2008, 64/27 of 2 December 2009, 65/43 of 8 December 2010, 66/26 of 2 December 2011, 67/29 of 3 December 2012, 68/28 of 5 December 2013, 69/30 of 2 December 2014, 70/25 of 7 December 2015, 71/30 of 5 December 2016, 72/25 of 4 December 2017, 73/29 of 5 December 2018, 74/31 of 12 December 2019, 75/34 of 7 December 2020 and 76/21 of 6 December 2021,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international agreements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

[41] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

RESOLUTION 77/40

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/383, para. 16)[42]

77/40. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all humankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[43]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[44] in which it is stated that, in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, the most recent of which is resolution 76/22 of 6 December 2021, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[45]

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts for the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

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[42] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[43] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[44] Resolution S-10/2.

[45] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), para. 76.

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Conference on Disarmament and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive, structured and focused debate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the Conference on Disarmament each year from 2009 to 2021,

Noting the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects in 2008 and the submission of its updated version in 2014,[46]

Recalling the comprehensive and substantive discussions of the Group of Governmental Experts that was convened in 2018 and 2019 pursuant to its resolution 72/250 of 24 December 2017,

Taking note of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to establish for its 2009 session a working group to discuss, substantially, without limitation, all issues related to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and the decision to establish for its 2021 session a subsidiary body on the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to establish a working group under its agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" as early as possible;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space, without prejudice to efforts

[46] See CD/1839 and CD/1985.

towards the conclusion of an effective and verifiable multilateral agreement or agreements on the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RESOLUTION 77/41

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 155 to 9, with 9 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/383, para. 16)[47]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Central African Republic, China, Cuba, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

Abstaining: India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Pakistan, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Togo, Zimbabwe

77/41. Destructive direct-ascent anti-satellite missile testing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/217 of 22 December 2007, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 74/82 of 13 December 2019 and 76/22 of 6 December 2021,

Reaffirming the applicability of international law, including international humanitarian law and the Charter of the United Nations, to activities in outer space,

Reaffirming also the right of all States to explore and use outer space without discrimination of any kind, on a basis of equality and in accordance with international law,

Emphasizing the importance of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[48] recalling the recognition by State parties to the Treaty of the common interest of all mankind in the progress of the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and recalling further that, pursuant to its article IX, States parties to the Treaty shall conduct all their activities in outer space with due regard for the corresponding interests of all other States parties,

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[47] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[48] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, adopted by consensus at the first special session devoted to disarmament,[49]

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and reaffirming that the prevention of an arms race in outer space is in the interest of maintaining international peace and security,

Emphasizing the need to maintain outer space as a peaceful, safe, stable, secure and sustainable environment for the benefit of all, and promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours,[50] submitted pursuant to resolution 75/36, and his recommendations that Member States study the ideas contained therein,

Recalling that, in the report of the Secretary-General, many States expressed concern about space debris as the most significant threat to the space environment, which identified the intentional destruction of satellites using kinetic force as exacerbating such threats,

Welcoming the work under way at the open-ended working group on reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours established pursuant to its resolution 76/231,

Welcoming the work in 2018 and 2022 at the Conference on Disarmament under subsidiary body 3, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, which was undertaken to advance the substantive work of the Conference,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Conference on Disarmament and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

Welcoming the ongoing work by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the implementation of the Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities[51] and the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines,[52]

Reaffirming that the equal, full and effective participation of both women and men is one of the essential factors for the promotion and attainment of sustainable peace and security,

Determined that practical measures should be taken to prevent an arms race in outer space,

Concerned by the impact of destructive direct-ascent anti-satellite missiles on the long-term sustainability of the outer space environment,

Recognizing that the use of other types of anti-satellite systems might have a similar negative impact on the long-term sustainability of the outer space environment,

Concerned that the use of destructive anti-satellite systems might have widespread and irreversible impacts on the outer space environment,

Determined to advance norms of responsible behaviour for outer space activities,

1. *Calls upon* all States to commit not to conduct destructive direct-ascent anti-satellite missile tests;

2. *Considers* such a commitment to be an urgent, initial measure aimed at preventing damage to the outer space environment, while also contributing to the development of further measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

3. *Calls upon* all States to continue discussions in the relevant bodies and to establish and develop further practical steps that could be taken, in order to enable risk reduction, prevent conflict from occurring in outer space and prevent an arms race in outer space; such steps could include, inter alia, transparency and confidence-building

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[49] Resolution S-10/2.

[50] A/76/77.

[51] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/74/20), annex II.

[52] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 117 and 118, and annex.

measures and additional moratoriums, which could contribute to legally binding instruments on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects.

RESOLUTION 77/42

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 122 to 50, with 4 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/383, para. 16)[53]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Côte d'Ivoire, Malawi, Seychelles, Switzerland

77/42. No first placement of weapons in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 69/32 of 2 December 2014, 70/27 of 7 December 2015, 71/32 of 5 December 2016, 72/27 of 4 December 2017, 73/31 of 5 December 2018, 74/33 of 12 December 2019, 75/37 of 7 December 2020 and 76/23 of 6 December 2021 and its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, which, inter alia, confirm the importance of transparency and confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Recognizing the common interest of all humankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space and of outer space turning into an arena for military confrontation, and bearing in mind the importance of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[54]

Conscious that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger to international peace and security,

Reaffirming that practical measures should be examined and taken in the search for agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space in a common effort towards a community of shared future for humankind,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with the existing legal regime providing for the peaceful use of outer space,

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[53] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[54] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

Reaffirming its recognition that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee prevention of an arms race in outer space and that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime,

Convinced that such measures could critically improve conditions for efficiently addressing the threat of an arms race in outer space, including the placement of weapons in outer space,

Welcoming, in this regard, the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects, introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,[55] and the submission of its updated version in 2014,[56]

Considering that transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities are an integral part of the draft treaty referred to above,

Stressing the importance of the political statements made by a number of States[57] that they would not be the first to place weapons in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space and the willingness of States to contribute to reaching this common goal;

2. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral negotiating forum on this subject,[58] has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement, or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

3. *Urges* an early commencement of substantive work based on the updated draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects, introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008, under the agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space";

4. *Stresses* that, while such an agreement is not yet concluded, other measures may contribute to ensuring that weapons are not placed in outer space;

5. *Encourages* all States, especially spacefaring nations, to consider the possibility of upholding, as appropriate, a political commitment not to be the first to place weapons in outer space;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space", the sub-item entitled "No first placement of weapons in outer space".

RESOLUTION 77/43

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/384, para. 7)[59]

77/43. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

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[55] See CD/1839.

[56] See CD/1985.

[57] Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[58] See resolution S-10/2.

[59] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Croatia, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland and Zambia.

Underlining the keen interest of the international community to keep abreast of the latest developments in science and technology of relevance to international security and disarmament and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

Mindful of the need to regulate the transfer of technologies for peaceful uses, in accordance with relevant international obligations, to address the risk of proliferation by States or non-State actors,

Acknowledging the need to continue the exchange of technologies for peaceful uses, including in accordance with relevant international obligations,

Mindful of the rights of States, reflected in relevant international agreements, regarding the development, production, transfer and use of technologies for peaceful purposes, in accordance with relevant international obligations, as well as the need for all Member States to fulfil their obligations in relation to arms control and disarmament and to prevent proliferation in all its aspects of all weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

Cognizant of the discussions on developments in science and technology at the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and within the meetings of experts on science and technology under the 2018–2020 intersessional programme established by the 2017 Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,

Cognizant also of the discussions in the Conference on Disarmament in 2022 under its subsidiary body 5,

Mindful of the discussions in other forums, such as the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in the United Nations disarmament machinery,

Noting the discussions on various dimensions of emerging technologies under the framework of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[60] and recalling the discussions and progress made by the Group of Governmental Experts on lethal autonomous weapons systems during its sessions held from 2018 to 2022,

Noting also the discussions within the United Nations and the specialized agencies on developments in the field of information and communications technologies, including in the context of international security,

Acknowledging that the accelerating pace of technological change necessitates a system-wide assessment of the potential impact of developments in science and technology on international security and disarmament, with due regard to avoiding duplication and complementing efforts already under way in United Nations entities and in the framework of the relevant international conventions,

Noting the discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts in the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,

1. *Invites* Member States to continue efforts to apply developments in science and technology for disarmament-related purposes, including the verification of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation instruments, and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to remain vigilant in understanding new and emerging developments in science and technology that could imperil international security, and underlines the importance of Member States engaging with experts from industry, the research community and civil society in addressing this challenge;

3. *Takes note* of the updated report of the Secretary-General on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;[61]

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session an updated report on the matter;

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[60] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[61] A/77/188.

5. *Encourages* the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters to continue its discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

6. *Encourages* Member States to organize events such as conferences, seminars, workshops and exhibitions, at the national, regional and international levels, on the role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament, in order to facilitate multilateral dialogue, as well as dialogue among relevant stakeholders, on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".

RESOLUTION 77/44

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[62]

77/44. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999, 55/33 K of 20 November 2000, 56/24 F of 29 November 2001, 57/64 of 22 November 2002, 58/45 of 8 December 2003, 59/68 of 3 December 2004, 60/60 of 8 December 2005, 61/63 of 6 December 2006, 62/28 of 5 December 2007, 63/51 of 2 December 2008, 64/33 of 2 December 2009, 65/53 of 8 December 2010, 66/31 of 2 December 2011, 67/37 of 3 December 2012, 68/36 of 5 December 2013, 69/55 of 2 December 2014, 70/30 of 7 December 2015, 71/60 of 5 December 2016, 72/47 of 4 December 2017, 73/39 of 5 December 2018, 74/52 of 12 December 2019, 75/53 of 7 December 2020 and 76/39 of 6 December 2021,

Emphasizing the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

Recognizing that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 76/39,[63]

Noting that the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku on 25 and 26 October 2019, welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly, without a vote, of resolution 73/39 on the observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control,[64]

Mindful of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress within the framework of international security,

[62] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[63] A/77/86.

[64] See A/74/548, annex.

disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures that they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures that they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing that information to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

RESOLUTION 77/45

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[65]

77/45. Relationship between disarmament and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations envisages the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world's human and economic resources,

Recalling also the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,[66] as well as the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[67]

Recalling further its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998, 54/54 T of 1 December 1999, 55/33 L of 20 November 2000, 56/24 E of 29 November 2001, 57/65 of 22 November 2002, 59/78 of 3 December 2004, 60/61 of 8 December 2005, 61/64 of 6 December 2006, 62/48 of 5 December 2007, 63/52 of 2 December 2008, 64/32 of 2 December 2009, 65/52 of 8 December 2010, 66/30 of 2 December 2011, 67/40 of 3 December 2012, 68/37 of 5 December 2013, 69/56 of 2 December 2014, 70/32 of 7 December 2015, 71/62 of 5 December 2016, 72/46 of 4 December 2017, 73/37 of 5 December 2018, 74/57 of 12 December 2019, 75/43 of 7 December 2020 and 76/37 of 6 December 2021 and its decision 58/520 of 8 December 2003,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku on 25 and 26 October 2019,[68]

Mindful of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption in 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

Bearing in mind the new challenges for the international community in the fields of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

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[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[66] See resolution S-10/2.

[67] See *Report of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, New York, 24 August–11 September 1987* (A/CONF.130/39).

[68] A/74/548, annex.

Stressing the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development and the important role of security in this connection, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development[69] and its reappraisal of this significant issue in the current international context,

Bearing in mind the importance of following up on the implementation of the action programme adopted at the 1987 International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 76/37,[70]

1. *Stresses* the central role of the United Nations in the relationship between disarmament and development, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen further the role of the Organization in this field, in particular the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development, in order to ensure continued and effective coordination and close cooperation between the relevant United Nations departments, agencies and subagencies;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme adopted on 11 September 1987 at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;

3. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

4. *Encourages* the international community to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals[71] and to make reference to the contribution that disarmament could provide in meeting them when it reviews its progress towards this purpose, as well as to make greater efforts to integrate disarmament, humanitarian and development activities;

5. *Encourages* the relevant regional and subregional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and research institutes to incorporate issues related to the relationship between disarmament and development into their agendas and, in this regard, to take into account the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development;

6. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with information regarding measures and efforts to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including the information provided by Member States pursuant to paragraph 6 above;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

RESOLUTION 77/46

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[72]

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[69] See A/59/119.

[70] A/77/114.

[71] See resolution 70/1.

[72] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

77/46. Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 I of 15 December 1994, 50/70 F of 12 December 1995, 51/45 C of 10 December 1996, 52/38 F of 9 December 1997, 53/77 AA of 4 December 1998, 54/54 U of 1 December 1999, 55/33 M of 20 November 2000, 56/24 D of 29 November 2001, 57/61 of 22 November 2002, 59/71 of 3 December 2004, 61/60 of 6 December 2006, 62/29 of 5 December 2007, 65/66 of 8 December 2010, 72/49 of 4 December 2017, 73/42 of 5 December 2018, 74/56 of 12 December 2019, 75/44 of 7 December 2020 and 76/38 of 6 December 2021, as well as its decisions 58/521 of 8 December 2003, 60/518 of 8 December 2005, 60/559 of 6 June 2006, 63/519 of 2 December 2008, 64/515 of 2 December 2009 and 70/551 of 23 December 2015,

Recalling also that, there being a consensus to do so in each case, three special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament were held in 1978, 1982 and 1988, respectively,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, adopted by consensus at the first special session devoted to disarmament,[73]

Bearing in mind also the ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Reiterating its conviction that a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament can set the future course of action in the fields of disarmament, arms control, non-proliferation and related international security matters,

Emphasizing the importance of multilateralism in the process of disarmament, arms control, non-proliferation and related international security matters,

Recalling the conclusion of the work of the Open-ended Working Group on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament to consider the objectives and agenda of the fourth special session, and to adopt its report and substantive recommendations by consensus,

Recalling also the report of the Open-ended Working Group and the recommendations contained therein,[74]

1. *Recalls* the adoption by consensus of the recommendations on the objectives and agenda of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament by the Open-ended Working Group on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which was established by the Assembly by its resolution 65/66 and its decision 70/551 and which met in New York in 2016 and 2017;

2. *Also recalls* the report of the Open-ended Working Group and the substantive recommendations contained therein;

3. *Reiterates its appreciation* to the participants of the Open-ended Working Group for their constructive contribution to its work;

4. *Encourages* Member States to continue consultations on the next steps for the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament".

[73] Resolution S-10/2.

[74] A/AC.268/2017/2.

RESOLUTION 77/47

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 136 to 35, with 8 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[75]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Georgia, Japan, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Ukraine

77/47. Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/39 of 3 December 2012, 68/32 of 5 December 2013, 69/58 of 2 December 2014, 70/34 of 7 December 2015, 71/71 of 5 December 2016, 72/251 of 24 December 2017, 73/40 of 5 December 2018, 74/54 of 12 December 2019, 75/45 of 7 December 2020 and 76/36 of 6 December 2021,

Welcoming the convening of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, on 26 September 2013, and recognizing its contribution to furthering the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing the importance of seeking a safer world for all and achieving peace and security in a world without nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that effective measures of nuclear disarmament have the highest priority, as affirmed at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the total elimination of nuclear weapons are the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Acknowledging the significant contribution made by a number of countries towards realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament by the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as by the voluntary renunciation of nuclear weapon programmes or withdrawal of all nuclear weapons from their territories, and strongly supporting the speedy establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

Recalling the resolve of the Heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[76] to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

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[75] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[76] Resolution 55/2.

Reaffirming the central role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament, and reaffirming also the continued importance and relevance of multilateral disarmament machinery as mandated by the General Assembly at its first special session devoted to disarmament,

Acknowledging the important role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians and the mass media, in advancing the objective of nuclear disarmament,

Sharing the deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and in this context reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 76/36,[77] and welcoming the fact that a large number of Member States contributed their views to this report,

Noting the adoption, with a vote, of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons[78] on 7 July 2017 at the United Nations conference to negotiate a legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons, leading towards their total elimination, and its entry into force on 22 January 2021,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[79] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to the cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Expressing its concern that improvements in existing nuclear weapons and the development of new types of nuclear weapons, as provided for in the military doctrines of some nuclear-weapon States, violate their legal obligations on nuclear disarmament, as well as the commitments made to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in their military and security policies, and contravene the negative security assurances provided by the nuclear-weapon States,

Expressing its deep concern that the negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament for the conclusion of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons have not yet commenced,

Determined to work collectively towards the realization of nuclear disarmament,

1. *Underlines* the strong support, expressed at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, held on 26 September 2013, for taking urgent and effective measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

2. *Calls for* urgent compliance with the legal obligations and the fulfilment of the commitments undertaken on nuclear disarmament;

3. *Endorses* the wide support expressed at the high-level meeting for a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons;

4. *Calls for* the urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on effective nuclear disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of nuclear weapons, including, in particular, on a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons;

5. *Decides* to convene, in New York, on a date to be decided later, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard;

6. *Takes note* of the views provided by Member States with regard to achieving the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in particular on the elements of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, as reflected in the report submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 76/36, and requests the Secretary-General to forward this report to the Conference on Disarmament and the Disarmament Commission for their early consideration;

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[77] A/77/99.

[78] A/CONF.229/2017/8.

[79] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

7. *Welcomes* the commemoration and promotion of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons devoted to furthering this objective;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to Member States, the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians, the mass media and individuals that developed activities in promotion of the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the President of the General Assembly to organize, on 26 September every year, a one-day high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons;

10. *Decides* that the aforementioned high-level plenary meeting shall be held with the participation of Member and observer States, represented at the highest possible level, as well as with the participation of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to update the platform for the promotion of these activities and to undertake all the arrangements, providing all the necessary resources and services, including webcasts, to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, including through the United Nations Offices at Geneva and Vienna, as well as the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, parliamentarians, the mass media and individuals, to commemorate and promote the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons through all means of educational and public awareness-raising activities about the threat posed to humanity by nuclear weapons and the necessity for their total elimination in order to mobilize international efforts towards achieving the common goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States with regard to achieving the objective of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in particular on effective nuclear disarmament measures, including elements of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, and also to transmit the report to the Conference on Disarmament;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament".

RESOLUTION 77/48

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 127 to 6, with 49 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[80]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic,

[80] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine

77/48. Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

The General Assembly,

Determined to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 56/24 T of 29 November 2001 on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and other relevant resolutions, as well as its resolutions 57/63 of 22 November 2002, 58/44 of 8 December 2003, 59/69 of 3 December 2004, 60/59 of 8 December 2005, 61/62 of 6 December 2006, 62/27 of 5 December 2007, 63/50 of 2 December 2008, 64/34 of 2 December 2009, 65/54 of 8 December 2010, 66/32 of 2 December 2011, 67/38 of 3 December 2012, 68/38 of 5 December 2013, 69/54 of 2 December 2014, 70/31 of 7 December 2015, 71/61 of 5 December 2016, 72/48 of 4 December 2017, 73/41 of 5 December 2018, 74/55 of 12 December 2019, 75/47 of 7 December 2020 and 76/40 of 6 December 2021 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation,

Recalling also the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security and, to that end, to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the Charter,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[81] in which it is stated, inter alia, that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most delegation organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

Convinced that, in the globalization era and with the information revolution, arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament problems are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected in one way or another by these problems and therefore should have the possibility to participate in the negotiations that arise to tackle them,

Bearing in mind the existence of a broad structure of disarmament and arms regulation agreements resulting from non-discriminatory and transparent multilateral negotiations with the participation of a large number of countries, regardless of their size and power,

Aware of the need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory and transparent negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

Recognizing also that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

Considering that the multilateral disarmament agreements provide the mechanism for States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of, the provisions of the agreements and that such consultations and cooperation may also be undertaken

[81] Resolution 55/2.

through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter,

Stressing that international cooperation, the peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would make an essential contribution to the creation of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

Being gravely concerned at the continuous and progressive erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that the abrogation of major instruments of the arms control and non-proliferation architecture as a result of unilateral actions by Member States in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

Noting that the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku on 25 and 26 October 2019, welcomed the adoption of resolution 73/41 on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and underlined the fact that multilateralism and multilaterally agreed solutions, in accordance with the Charter, provide the only sustainable method of addressing disarmament and international security issues,[82]

Reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope;

2. *Also reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in resolving disarmament and non-proliferation concerns;

3. *Urges* the participation of all interested States in multilateral negotiations on arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament in a non-discriminatory and transparent manner;

4. *Underlines* the importance of preserving the existing agreements on arms regulation and disarmament and the multilateral disarmament forums, which constitute an expression of the results of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations in response to the challenges facing humankind;

5. *Calls once again upon* all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on implementation, in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments, and to refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another to resolve their concerns;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies of Member States on the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation, submitted pursuant to resolution 76/40;[83]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation".

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[82] See A/74/548, annex.

[83] A/77/113.

RESOLUTION 77/49

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 147 to 5, with 23 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[84]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against: France, Israel, Liberia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Australia, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Spain, Türkiye, Ukraine

77/49. Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international humanitarian law,

Recalling its resolutions 62/30 of 5 December 2007, 63/54 of 2 December 2008, 65/55 of 8 December 2010, 67/36 of 3 December 2012, 69/57 of 2 December 2014, 71/70 of 5 December 2016, 73/38 of 5 December 2018 and 75/42 of 7 December 2020,

Determined to promote multilateralism as an essential means to carry forward negotiations on arms regulation and disarmament,

Taking note of the opinions expressed by Member States and relevant international organizations on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium, as reflected in the reports submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions 62/30, 63/54, 65/55, 67/36, 69/57, 71/70, 73/38 and 75/42,[85]

Recognizing the importance of implementing, as appropriate, the recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization to mitigate potential hazards to human beings and the environment from the contamination of territories with depleted uranium residues,

Considering that studies conducted so far by relevant international organizations have not provided a detailed enough account of the magnitude of the potential long-term effects on human beings and the environment of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium,

Recalling that the United Nations Environment Programme, in its report to the Secretary-General on the subject,[86] affirms that major scientific uncertainties persist regarding the long-term environmental impacts of depleted uranium, particularly with respect to long-term groundwater contamination, and calls for a precautionary approach to the use of depleted uranium,

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[84] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[85] A/63/170, A/63/170/Add.1, A/65/129, A/65/129/Add.1, A/67/177, A/67/177/Add.1, A/69/151, A/71/139, A/73/99, A/75/92 and A/77/124.

[86] A/65/129/Add.1, sect. III.

Convinced that, as humankind becomes more aware of the need to take immediate measures to protect the environment, any event that could jeopardize such efforts requires urgent attention to implement the required measures,

Noting that further research should be done to assess the health risks and environmental impact of the use of arms and ammunitions containing depleted uranium in conflict situations,

Noting also the technical and financial barriers faced by affected States seeking to implement post-conflict remedial measures that meet international standards for radioactive waste management for locations, infrastructure and materiel contaminated by arms and ammunitions containing depleted uranium,

Taking into consideration the potential harmful effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment, and the ongoing concerns of affected States and communities, health experts and civil society about such effects,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States and international organizations that submitted their views to the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 75/42 and previous resolutions on the subject;

2. *Invites* Member States and relevant international organizations, particularly those that have not yet done so, to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to request relevant international organizations to update and complete, as appropriate, their studies and research on the effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium on human health and the environment;

4. *Encourages* Member States, particularly the affected States, as necessary, to facilitate the studies and research referred to in paragraph 3 above;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to follow closely the development of the studies and research referred to in paragraph 3 above;

6. *Invites* Member States that have used armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium in armed conflicts to provide the relevant authorities of affected States, upon request, with information, as detailed as possible, about the location of the areas of use and the amounts used, with the objective of facilitating the assessment and clearance of such areas;

7. *Encourages* Member States in a position to do so to provide assistance to States affected by the use of arms and ammunitions containing depleted uranium, in particular in identifying and managing contaminated sites and material;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an updated report on the subject to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session, reflecting the information submitted by Member States and relevant international organizations, including the information submitted pursuant to paragraphs 2 and 3 above;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium".

RESOLUTION 77/50

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 179 to none, with 2 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[87]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba,

[87] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel, United States of America

77/50. Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolutions 71/59 of 5 December 2016, 73/43 of 5 December 2018 and 75/46 of 7 December 2020,

Determined to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling the long-standing determination of the international community to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical and biological weapons, as well as the continuing support for measures to uphold the authority of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,[88] as expressed by consensus in many previous resolutions,

Emphasizing the necessity of easing international tension and strengthening trust and confidence between States,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[89]

2. *Renews its previous call* to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions;

3. *Calls upon* those States that continue to maintain reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol to withdraw them;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/51

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[90]

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[88] League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV, No. 2138.

[89] A/77/98.

[90] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Georgia, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malawi, Mexico, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Oman, Peru, Singapore, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia.

77/51. International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the promotion of peace and security is among the main purposes and principles of the United Nations embodied in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps to strengthen that role,

Recalling the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[91] prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of governmental experts,

Convinced that the need has never been greater for disarmament and non-proliferation education, especially regarding weapons of mass destruction,

Recognizing the importance of the role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

Emphasizing in this context the essential role of Governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, academia and the media,

Acknowledging the related importance of education as a tool for peace, security, disarmament and non-proliferation,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 5 March as the International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness;

2. *Invites* all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system, civil society, academia, the media and individuals to commemorate the International Day in an appropriate manner, including through all means of educational and public awareness-raising activities;

3. *Invites* the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, in collaboration with all relevant organizations, to facilitate the observance of the International Day, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980;

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, including civil society, the private sector and academia, for appropriate observance.

RESOLUTION 77/52

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[92]

77/52. United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/33 E of 20 November 2000, 57/60 of 22 November 2002, 59/93 of 3 December 2004, 61/73 of 6 December 2006, 63/70 of 2 December 2008, 65/77 of 8 December 2010, 67/47 of 3 December 2012, 69/65 of 2 December 2014, 71/57 of 5 December 2016, 73/59 of 5 December 2018 and 75/61 of 7 December 2020,

Recalling also that 2022 marks the twenty-second anniversary of resolution 55/33 E for the development of the study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,

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[91] A/57/124.

[92] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, Türkiye and United States of America.

Recalling further its resolution 76/45 of 6 December 2021 on youth, disarmament and non-proliferation,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[93] in which the Secretary-General reported on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[94] and further recalling with appreciation that 2022 marks the twentieth anniversary of that report,

Recognizing the usefulness of the disarmament and non-proliferation education website and online resources, which are updated on a regular basis by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, including to provide online courses and information in all its sections, such as presentations, interviews in the *Disarmament Today* series of podcasts, which include the experiences of the hibakusha, the atomic bomb survivors, films and publications on disarmament issues, and encouraging the use of the advances in new information and communications technologies and social media for the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

Emphasizing that efforts need to be continued to implement the recommendations of the study and follow the good examples of how they are being implemented to stimulate even further long-term results, including the assistance of Member States to academia and civil society in their important disarmament and non-proliferation pedagogical activities,

Desirous of stressing the urgency of promoting concerted international efforts at disarmament and non-proliferation, in particular in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, with a view to strengthening international security, confidence-building, and enhancing sustainable development,

Conscious of the need to combat the negative effects of cultures of violence and complacency in the face of current dangers in this field through long-term programmes of education and training,

Remaining convinced that the need for disarmament and non-proliferation education and critical thinking skills, particularly among youth, has never been greater, not only on the subject of weapons of mass destruction but also in the field of small arms and light weapons, terrorism and other challenges to international security and the process of disarmament, as well as on the relevance of implementing the recommendations contained in the United Nations study,

Recognizing the importance of the participation of civil society, including academic and non-governmental organizations, which plays an active role in the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education, as well as in promoting the engagement of young people in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, civil society and academic and non-governmental organizations, which, within their purview, implemented the recommendations made in the United Nations study, as discussed in the report of the Secretary-General reviewing the implementation of the recommendations, and encourages them once again to continue to apply and advance those recommendations and report to the Secretary-General on steps taken to implement them;

2. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations, relevant specialized agencies and regional and subregional organizations to continue considering developing and implementing policies and educational programmes for young people to increase and facilitate their constructive engagement in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report reviewing the results of the implementation of the recommendations and possible new opportunities for promoting disarmament and non-proliferation education, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his disarmament agenda, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, and notes the proposed actions therein to further advance disarmament and non-proliferation education, as well as those actions championed and supported by Member States;

5. *Reiterates* the request to the Secretary-General to utilize electronic means to the fullest extent possible in the dissemination, in as many official languages as feasible, of information related to his report and any other

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[93] A/77/133.

[94] A/57/124.

information that the Office for Disarmament Affairs gathers on an ongoing basis with regard to the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study;

6. *Requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General to maintain and update the disarmament education website, the *Disarmament Today* series of podcasts, e-learning tools and related resources as efficient and effective tools to promote disarmament and non-proliferation education;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Disarmament and non-proliferation education".

RESOLUTION 77/53

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 138 to 14, with 31 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[95]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Central African Republic, Czechia, Estonia, France, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, Ukraine

77/53. Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 70/47 of 7 December 2015, 71/46 of 5 December 2016, 72/30 of 4 December 2017, 73/47 of 5 December 2018, 74/42 of 12 December 2019, 75/39 of 7 December 2020 and 76/30 of 6 December 2021,

Reiterating the deep concern about the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons,

Stressing that the immense and uncontrollable destructive capability and indiscriminate nature of nuclear weapons cause unacceptable humanitarian consequences, as has been demonstrated through their past use and testing,

Recalling that concern about the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons has been reflected in numerous United Nations resolutions, including the first resolution adopted by the General Assembly, on 24 January 1946,

[95] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Moldova, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Recalling also that at the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, in 1978, the Assembly stressed that nuclear weapons posed the greatest danger to mankind and to the survival of civilization,[96]

Welcoming the renewed interest and resolve of the international community, together with the International Committee of the Red Cross and international humanitarian organizations, to address the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons expressed deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,[97]

Noting the resolutions of 26 November 2011 and 22 June 2022 of the Council of Delegates of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement entitled "Working towards the elimination of nuclear weapons",

Recalling the joint statements on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons delivered to the General Assembly and during the ninth and tenth cycles of the review of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[98] including most recently at the tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Welcoming the facts-based discussions on the effects of a nuclear weapon detonation that were held at the conferences on the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, convened by Norway, on 4 and 5 March 2013, Mexico, on 13 and 14 February 2014, and Austria, on 8 and 9 December 2014, and, most recently, on 20 June 2022,

Cognizant that a key message from experts and international organizations at those conferences was that no State or international body could address the immediate humanitarian emergency caused by a nuclear weapon detonation or provide adequate assistance to victims,

Firmly believing that it is in the interest of all States to engage in discussions on the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons with the aim of further broadening and deepening the understanding of this matter, and welcoming civil society's ongoing engagement,

Reaffirming the role of civil society, in partnership with Governments, in raising awareness about the unacceptable humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons,

Emphasizing that the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons affect not only Governments but each and every citizen of our interconnected world and have deep implications for human survival, for the environment, for socioeconomic development, for our economies and for the health of future generations,

1. *Stresses* that it is in the interest of the very survival of humanity that nuclear weapons never be used again, under any circumstances;

2. *Emphasizes* that the only way to guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used again is their total elimination;

3. *Stresses* that the catastrophic effects of a nuclear weapon detonation, whether by accident, miscalculation or design, cannot be adequately addressed;

4. *Expresses its firm belief* that awareness of the catastrophic consequences of nuclear weapons must underpin all approaches and efforts towards nuclear disarmament;

5. *Calls upon* all States, in their shared responsibility, to prevent the use of nuclear weapons, to prevent their vertical and horizontal proliferation and to achieve nuclear disarmament;

6. *Urges* States to exert all efforts to totally eliminate the threat of these weapons of mass destruction;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons".

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[96] See resolution S-10/2.

[97] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

[98] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

RESOLUTION 77/54

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 119 to 44, with 13 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[99]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, China, Croatia, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Ukraine

77/54. Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 72/31 of 4 December 2017, 73/48 of 5 December 2018, 74/41 of 12 December 2019, 75/40 of 7 December 2020 and 76/34 of 6 December 2021,

1. *Recalls* the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons[100] on 7 July 2017;

2. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Treaty on 22 January 2021;

3. *Notes* that the Treaty has been open for signature at United Nations Headquarters in New York since 20 September 2017;

4. *Welcomes* that already 91 States had signed the Treaty and 68 States had become parties to it as at 4 October 2022;

5. *Also welcomes* the convening of the first Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, held in Vienna from 21 to 23 June 2022, which examined the status and implementation of the Treaty and considered the progress made in achieving its objectives, purpose and the goal of a world free from nuclear weapons;

6. *Further welcomes* the decisions taken at the first Meeting of States Parties, including the adoption of the declaration entitled "Our commitment to a world free of nuclear weapons"[101] and the Vienna Action Plan;[102]

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[99] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chile, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[100] A/CONF.229/2017/8.

[101] TPNW/MSP/2022/6, annex I.

[102] Ibid., annex II.

7. *Welcomes* the participation of States signatories, as well as of other States not party to the Treaty, the relevant entities of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and relevant non-governmental organizations at the first Meeting of States Parties as observers;

8. *Notes* the establishment of the informal intersessional process to further the implementation of the Treaty;

9. *Confirms* that the second Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons will be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 27 November to 1 December 2023;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, as may be required, for the second Meeting of States Parties and its informal intersessional process;

11. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Treaty at the earliest possible date;

12. *Calls upon* those States in a position to do so to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral contacts, outreach and other means;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Treaty, to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the status of signature and ratification, acceptance, approval or accession of the Treaty;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons".

RESOLUTION 77/55

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[103]

77/55. Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms the equal rights of women and men,

Recalling also its resolutions 65/69 of 8 December 2010, 67/48 of 3 December 2012, 68/33 of 5 December 2013, 69/61 of 2 December 2014, 71/56 of 5 December 2016, 73/46 of 5 December 2018 and 75/48 of 7 December 2020,

Recalling further General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on the issue of women and peace and security,

Recalling the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[104]

Taking note of action 36 of the Agenda for Disarmament of the Secretary-General, on the full and equal participation of women in decision-making processes, and action 37, on gender parity on disarmament bodies established by the Secretariat,

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[103] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

[104] *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.

Reaffirming the Sustainable Development Goals relevant to the promotion of women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, and acknowledging that the success of efforts to achieve sustainable development and disarmament depends on the full and effective inclusion of women in all aspects of these efforts,

Welcoming the call for the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit transfer of small arms, pursuant to Security Council resolutions 2106 (2013) of 24 June 2013, 2117 (2013) of 26 September 2013, 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 and 2220 (2015) of 22 May 2015,

Reaffirming that the full, equal and meaningful participation of both women and men is one of the essential factors for the promotion and attainment of sustainable peace and security,

Recognizing that women should not only be perceived as victims and survivors of gender-based armed violence, but are also essential in preventing and reducing armed violence, and are active and key players in advocating for arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation,

Recognizing also the valuable contribution of women to practical disarmament measures carried out at the local, national, subregional, regional and global levels in the prevention and reduction of armed violence and armed conflict, and in promoting disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Recalling its resolution 76/45 of 6 December 2021, in which it reaffirms the important and positive contribution that young people can make to the promotion and attainment of sustainable peace and security,

Recognizing that the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control should be further developed and in particular the need to facilitate the participation and representation of women in policymaking, planning and implementation processes related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Recalling the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty,[105] therefore reiterating the need for States parties to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and men in pursuing the object and purpose of all provisions of the Treaty, and welcoming the inclusion of the provisions on serious acts of gender-based violence and on violence against children, while also recalling the adoption of the action-oriented decision on gender and gender-based violence at the Fifth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty,

Welcoming the outcome of the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of Member States to increase the participation of women in their national and regional coordination mechanisms on disarmament-related matters, including in efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

Recognizing the important role played by civil society organizations in promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Taking into consideration the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the progress made in gender equality, multilateral disarmament and arms control, and acknowledging that the pandemic has further exacerbated the socioeconomic conditions of people in vulnerable situations across the world, which has resulted in the intensification of tensions and an alarming increase in cases of domestic and gender-based armed violence,

1. *Urges* Member States, relevant subregional and regional organizations, the United Nations and the specialized agencies to promote equal opportunities for the representation of women in all decision-making processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, in particular as it relates to the prevention and reduction of armed violence and armed conflict;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the measures taken by Member States to implement General Assembly resolution 75/48;[106]

3. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts of the United Nations organs, agencies, funds and programmes to accord high priority to the issue of women and peace and security, particularly in assisting Member States in the

[105] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3013, No. 52373.

[106] A/77/122.

implementation of all resolutions related to women in the context of peace and security, and in this regard notes the important role of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);

4. *Encourages* Member States to better understand the impact of armed violence, in particular the impact of the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons on women and girls, through, inter alia, the development of national action plans on women and peace and security, strengthening the collection of data, where feasible disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, marital status, migration status, disability, geographical location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, and utilizing analysis mechanisms to inform evidence-based, gender-sensitive policymaking and programming;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to take account of the differing impacts of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons on women, men, girls and boys and to strengthen or develop, where they do not exist, response mechanisms to address such impacts;

6. *Encourages* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their implementation efforts to address the differential impact of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons on women, men, girls and boys;

7. *Urges* Member States to support and strengthen the full, equal, meaningful and effective participation of women in organizations in the field of disarmament at the local, national, subregional, regional and global levels;

8. *Calls upon* all States to empower women, including through mentoring, networking, knowledge-sharing and capacity-building efforts, as appropriate, to participate in the design and implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control efforts;

9. *Encourages* States to seriously consider increasing funding for policies and programmes, advocacy, education, training and research that take account of the differing impacts of illicit small arms and light weapons on women, men, girls and boys;

10. *Calls upon* all States to develop appropriate and effective national risk assessment criteria to facilitate the prevention of the use of arms to commit violence against women;

11. *Urges* Member States to voluntarily share good practices and experiences of the successes of the role of women at the national, regional and global levels, in order to promote and strengthen coordination and cooperation in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control;

12. *Requests* the relevant United Nations organs, agencies, funds and programmes to assist States, upon request, in promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, including in preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on ways and means of promoting the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control".

RESOLUTION 77/56

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[107]

77/56. Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/77 D of 4 December 1998, 55/33 S of 20 November 2000, 57/67 of 22 November 2002, 59/73 of 3 December 2004, 61/87 of 6 December 2006, 63/56 of 2 December 2008, 65/70 of 8 December 2010,

[107] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Australia, Austria, China, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

67/52 of 3 December 2012, 69/63 of 2 December 2014, 71/43 of 5 December 2016, 73/44 of 5 December 2018 and 75/41 of 7 December 2020,

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[108]

Bearing in mind its resolution 49/31 of 9 December 1994 on the protection and security of small States,

Proceeding from the fact that nuclear-weapon-free status is one of the means of ensuring the national security of States,

Convinced that the internationally recognized status of Mongolia contributes to enhancing stability and confidence-building in the region and promotes Mongolia's security by strengthening its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders and the preservation of its ecological balance,

Welcoming the declaration by Mongolia regarding its nuclear-weapon-free status of 17 September 2012,[109]

Welcoming also the joint declaration of the five nuclear-weapon States on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status of 17 September 2012,[110]

Noting that the declarations referred to above have been transmitted to the Security Council,

Welcoming the adoption by the Mongolian parliament of legislation defining and regulating Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status[111] as a concrete step towards promoting the aims of nuclear non-proliferation,

Bearing in mind the joint statement of the five nuclear-weapon States on security assurances to Mongolia in connection with its nuclear-weapon-free status[112] as a contribution to the implementation of resolution 53/77 D, as well as their commitment to Mongolia to cooperate in the implementation of the resolution, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

Mindful of the support expressed for Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status by the Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries at the Thirteenth Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[113] the Fourteenth Conference, held in Havana on 15 and 16 September 2006,[114] the Fifteenth Summit Conference, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 11 to 16 July 2009,[115] the Sixteenth Conference, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,[116] the Seventeenth Conference, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, and the Eighteenth Summit, held in Baku on 25 and 26 October 2019,[117] and by Ministers at the Fifteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 29 and 30 July 2008,[118] the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting, held in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,[119] the Seventeenth Ministerial Conference, held in Algiers from 26 to 29 May 2014, and the Eighteenth Ministerial Conference, held in Baku on 5 and 6 April 2018,

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[108] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[109] A/67/517-S/2012/760, annex.

[110] A/67/393-S/2012/721, annex.

[111] See A/55/56-S/2000/160.

[112] A/55/530-S/2000/1052, annex.

[113] See A/57/759 S/2003/332, annex I.

[114] See A/61/472-S/2006/780, annex I.

[115] See A/63/965-S/2009/514, annex.

[116] See A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

[117] See A/74/548, annex.

[118] See A/62/929, annex I.

[119] A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex V.

Noting that the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco,[120] Rarotonga,[121] Bangkok[122] and Pelindaba[123] expressed their recognition and full support for Mongolia's international nuclear-weapon-free status at the first Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones, held in Tlatelolco, Mexico, from 26 to 28 April 2005,[124]

Noting also that the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia[125] expressed support for Mongolia's policy at the second Conference of States Parties and Signatories to Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in New York on 30 April 2010, and at the third Conference of States Parties and Signatories of Treaties that Establish Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zones and Mongolia, held in New York on 24 April 2015,

Noting further other measures taken to implement resolution 75/41 at the national and international levels,

Welcoming Mongolia's active and positive role in developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the States of the region and other States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[126]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the efforts to implement resolution 75/41;[127]

3. *Welcomes* the declarations of 17 September 2012 by Mongolia and the five nuclear-weapon States on Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status as a concrete contribution to nuclear disarmament and the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and the enhancement of confidence and predictability in the region;

4. *Welcomes and supports* the measures taken by Mongolia to consolidate and strengthen this status;

5. *Endorses and supports* Mongolia's good-neighbourly and balanced relationship with its neighbours as an important element of strengthening regional peace, security and stability;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts made by Member States to cooperate with Mongolia in implementing resolution 75/41, as well as the progress made in consolidating Mongolia's international security;

7. *Invites* Member States to continue to cooperate with Mongolia in taking the measures necessary to consolidate and strengthen Mongolia's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders, its independent foreign policy, its economic security and its ecological balance, as well as its nuclear-weapon-free status;

8. *Appeals* to the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region to support Mongolia's efforts to join the relevant regional security and economic arrangements;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to provide assistance to Mongolia in taking the necessary measures mentioned in paragraph 7 above;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status".

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[120] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[121] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[122] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[123] A/50/426, annex.

[124] See A/60/121, annex III.

[125] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2970, No. 51633.

[126] A/77/184.

[127] Ibid., sect. IV.

RESOLUTION 77/57

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 133 to 35, with 13 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[128]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Georgia, Iceland, India, Japan, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Serbia, Ukraine

77/57. Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999, 55/33 X of 20 November 2000, 56/24 S of 29 November 2001, 57/85 of 22 November 2002, 58/46 of 8 December 2003, 59/83 of 3 December 2004, 60/76 of 8 December 2005, 61/83 of 6 December 2006, 62/39 of 5 December 2007, 63/49 of 2 December 2008, 64/55 of 2 December 2009, 65/76 of 8 December 2010, 66/46 of 2 December 2011, 67/33 of 3 December 2012, 68/42 of 5 December 2013, 69/43 of 2 December 2014, 70/56 of 7 December 2015, 71/58 of 5 December 2016, 72/58 of 4 December 2017, 73/64 of 5 December 2018, 74/59 of 12 December 2019, 75/66 of 7 December 2020 and 76/53 of 6 December 2021,

Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to humanity and all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the realization of the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world through the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[129] in particular the obligations undertaken in article VI of the Treaty, to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

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[128] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[129] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[130] the unequivocal commitment of nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, agreed at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[131] and the action points agreed at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as part of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions on nuclear disarmament,[132]

Expressing concern at the consecutive failure of the 2015 and 2020 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to reach consensus on a substantive outcome document,

Sharing deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons, and in this context reaffirming the need for all States at all times to comply with applicable international law, including international humanitarian law,

Calling upon all nuclear-weapon States to undertake concrete disarmament efforts, and stressing that all States need to make special efforts to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons,

Recalling the 2008 five-point proposal for nuclear disarmament of the Secretary-General, in which he proposed, inter alia, the consideration of negotiations on a nuclear weapons convention or agreement on a framework of separate mutually reinforcing instruments, backed by a strong system of verification,

Noting continued efforts towards realizing nuclear disarmament, including through the Secretary-General's disarmament agenda, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*,

Recalling the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty,[133] the treaties of Tlatelolco,[134] Rarotonga,[135] Bangkok[136] and Pelindaba[137] and the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia,[138] as well as Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status, are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Recognizing the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Stressing the urgent need for the nuclear-weapon States to accelerate concrete progress on the 13 practical steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons leading to nuclear disarmament, contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference,

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[130] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[131] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[132] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I.

[133] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[134] Ibid., vol. 634, No. 9068.

[135] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[136] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

[137] A/50/426, annex.

[138] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2970, No. 51633.

Recalling the Model Nuclear Weapons Convention submitted to the Secretary-General by Costa Rica and Malaysia in 2007 and circulated by the Secretary-General,[139]

Recalling also the adoption on 7 July 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,[140] and welcoming the entry into force of the Treaty on 22 January 2021 and the successful convening of the first Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty, held in Vienna from 21 to 23 June 2022, which have contributed to achieving the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

Recalling further the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,[141]

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States to immediately engage in multilateral negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control, including under the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures which they have taken with respect to the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its seventy-eighth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 77/58

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 167 to 2, with 9 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[142]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zimbabwe
Against: Central African Republic, Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Abstaining: Algeria, China, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Lebanon, Pakistan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates

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[139] A/62/650, annex.

[140] A/CONF.229/2017/8.

[141] A/51/218, annex.

[142] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zimbabwe.

77/58. The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation

The General Assembly,

Concerned about the increasing regional and global security challenges caused, inter alia, by the ongoing proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its role and responsibility in the field of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Emphasizing the significance of regional and international efforts to prevent and curb comprehensively the proliferation of ballistic missile systems capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, as a contribution to international peace and security,

Welcoming the adoption of the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation on 25 November 2002 at The Hague,[143] and convinced that the Code of Conduct will contribute to enhancing transparency and confidence among States,

Recalling its resolutions 59/91 of 3 December 2004, 60/62 of 8 December 2005, 63/64 of 2 December 2008, 65/73 of 8 December 2010, 67/42 of 3 December 2012, 69/44 of 2 December 2014, 71/33 of 5 December 2016, 73/49 of 5 December 2018 and 75/60 of 7 December 2020, entitled "The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation",

Recalling also that the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, as recognized by the Security Council in its resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 and subsequent resolutions, constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Confirming its commitment to the Declaration on International Cooperation in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space for the Benefit and in the Interest of All States, Taking into Particular Account the Needs of Developing Countries, as contained in the annex to its resolution 51/122 of 13 December 1996,

Recognizing that States should not be excluded from utilizing the benefits of space for peaceful purposes, but that in reaping such benefits and in conducting related cooperation they must not contribute to the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of carrying weapons of mass destruction,

Noting the continuous efforts of subscribing States to raise awareness of the Code of Conduct,

Mindful of the need to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

1. *Welcomes* the fact that 143 States have so far subscribed to the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation as a practical step against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Also welcomes* the advancement of the universalization process of the Code of Conduct, and underscores the importance of further advancing, at both the regional and the international levels, the universalization of the Code;

3. *Invites* all States that have not yet subscribed to the Code of Conduct, in particular those possessing space launch vehicle and ballistic missile capabilities and those developing corresponding national programmes, to do so, bearing in mind the right to use space for peaceful purposes;

4. *Encourages* States that have already subscribed to the Code of Conduct to make efforts to increase participation in the Code and to further improve its implementation;

5. *Notes* progress in the implementation of the Code of Conduct, which contributes to enhancing transparency and building confidence among States through the submission of pre-launch notifications and annual declarations on space launch vehicle and ballistic missile policies, and underlines the importance of further steps in this direction;

6. *Encourages* the exploration of further ways and means to deal effectively with the problem of the proliferation of ballistic missiles capable of delivering weapons of mass destruction, to take the measures necessary

[143] A/57/724, enclosure.

to avoid contributing to such delivery systems, and to continue to deepen the relationship between the Code of Conduct and the United Nations;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation".

RESOLUTION 77/59

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[144]

77/59. Regional disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 N of 1 December 1999, 55/33 O of 20 November 2000, 56/24 H of 29 November 2001, 57/76 of 22 November 2002, 58/38 of 8 December 2003, 59/89 of 3 December 2004, 60/63 of 8 December 2005, 61/80 of 6 December 2006, 62/38 of 5 December 2007, 63/43 of 2 December 2008, 64/41 of 2 December 2009, 65/45 of 8 December 2010, 66/36 of 2 December 2011, 67/57 of 3 December 2012, 68/54 of 5 December 2013, 69/45 of 2 December 2014, 70/43 of 7 December 2015, 71/40 of 5 December 2016, 72/34 of 4 December 2017, 73/33 of 5 December 2018, 74/37 of 12 December 2019, 75/49 of 7 December 2020 and 76/41 of 6 December 2021 on regional disarmament,

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[145]

Recalling the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[146]

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

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[144] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Egypt, Eritrea, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic and Türkiye.

[145] Resolution S-10/2.

[146] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Regional disarmament".

RESOLUTION 77/60

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[147]

77/60. Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 58/43 of 8 December 2003, 59/87 of 3 December 2004, 60/64 of 8 December 2005, 61/81 of 6 December 2006, 62/45 of 5 December 2007, 63/45 of 2 December 2008, 64/43 of 2 December 2009, 65/47 of 8 December 2010, 66/38 of 2 December 2011, 67/61 of 3 December 2012, 68/55 of 5 December 2013, 69/46 of 2 December 2014, 70/42 of 7 December 2015, 71/39 of 5 December 2016, 72/33 of 4 December 2017, 73/35 of 5 December 2018, 74/39 of 12 December 2019, 75/51 of 7 December 2020 and 76/43 of 6 December 2021 on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context,

Recalling also its resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict, in which the General Assembly calls upon Member States to settle their disputes by peaceful means, as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter, inter alia, by any procedures adopted by the parties,

Recalling further the resolutions and guidelines adopted by consensus by the General Assembly and the Disarmament Commission relating to confidence-building measures and their implementation at the global, regional and subregional levels,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the agreement of all States concerned, and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability,

Convinced that resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

Recognizing the need for meaningful dialogue among States concerned to avert conflict,

Welcoming the peace processes already initiated by States concerned to resolve their disputes through peaceful means bilaterally or through mediation, inter alia, by third parties, regional organizations or the United Nations,

Recognizing that States in some regions have already taken steps towards confidence-building measures at the bilateral, subregional and regional levels in the political and military fields, including arms control and disarmament,

[147] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Egypt, Eritrea, Nicaragua, Pakistan and Syrian Arab Republic.

and noting that such confidence-building measures have improved peace and security in those regions and contributed to progress in the socioeconomic conditions of their people,

Concerned that the continuation of disputes among States, particularly in the absence of an effective mechanism to resolve them through peaceful means, may contribute to the arms race and endanger the maintenance of international peace and security and the efforts of the international community to promote arms control and disarmament,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to refrain from the use or threat of use of force in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the peaceful settlement of disputes under Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, which provides for a solution by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement, resort to regional agencies or arrangements or other peaceful means chosen by the parties;

3. *Reaffirms* the ways and means regarding confidence- and security-building measures set out in the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1993 session;[148]

4. *Calls upon* Member States to pursue these ways and means through sustained consultations and dialogue, while at the same time avoiding actions that may hinder or impair such a dialogue;

5. *Urges* States to comply strictly with all bilateral, regional and international agreements, including arms control and disarmament agreements, to which they are party;

6. *Emphasizes* that the objective of confidence-building measures should be to help to strengthen international peace and security and to be consistent with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments;

7. *Encourages* the promotion of bilateral and regional confidence-building measures, with the consent and participation of the parties concerned, to avoid conflict and prevent the unintended and accidental outbreak of hostilities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session containing the views of Member States on confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context".

RESOLUTION 77/61

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 182 to 1, with 1 abstention,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[149]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts

[148] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II, sect. III.A.

[149] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Belarus, Pakistan, Peru and Syrian Arab Republic.

and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: India

Abstaining: Russian Federation

77/61. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999, 55/33 P of 20 November 2000, 56/24 I of 29 November 2001, 57/77 of 22 November 2002, 58/39 of 8 December 2003, 59/88 of 3 December 2004, 60/75 of 8 December 2005, 61/82 of 6 December 2006, 62/44 of 5 December 2007, 63/44 of 2 December 2008, 64/42 of 2 December 2009, 65/46 of 8 December 2010, 66/37 of 2 December 2011, 67/62 of 3 December 2012, 68/56 of 5 December 2013, 69/47 of 2 December 2014, 70/44 of 7 December 2015, 71/41 of 5 December 2016, 72/35 of 4 December 2017, 73/34 of 5 December 2018, 74/38 of 12 December 2019, 75/50 of 7 December 2020 and 76/42 of 6 December 2021,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Recognizing also the importance of equitable representation of women in arms control discussions and negotiations,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Noting with particular interest the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[150] which is a cornerstone of European security,

Believing that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

[150] See CD/1064.

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

RESOLUTION 77/62

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 156 to none, with 23 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[151]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Uganda, Yemen

77/62. The Arms Trade Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/89 of 6 December 2006, 63/240 of 24 December 2008, 64/48 of 2 December 2009, 67/234 A of 24 December 2012, 67/234 B of 2 April 2013, 68/31 of 5 December 2013, 69/49 of 2 December 2014, 70/58 of 7 December 2015, 71/50 of 5 December 2016, 72/44 of 4 December 2017, 73/36 of 5 December 2018, 74/49 of 12 December 2019, 75/64 of 7 December 2020 and 76/50 of 6 December 2021 and its decision 66/518 of 2 December 2011,

Recognizing that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing also the security, social, economic and humanitarian consequences of the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms,

Recognizing further the legitimate political, security, economic and commercial interests of States in the international trade in conventional arms,

Underlining the urgent need to prevent and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, and to prevent their diversion to the illicit market, or for unauthorized end use or end users, including through improvements to stockpile management, thereby preventing the exacerbation of armed violence,

[151] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

the commission of terrorist acts and the violation of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

Emphasizing the responsibility of all States, in accordance with their respective international and regional obligations and commitments, to effectively regulate the international trade in conventional arms,

Recalling the contribution made by the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[152] as well as the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[153] and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons,[154]

Highlighting the relevance of the Arms Trade Treaty,[155] including its links and synergies with other relevant instruments on conventional arms, to efforts to meet Sustainable Development Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[156] and specifically target 16.4, which aims at significantly reducing illicit arms flows by 2030,

Recalling the Secretary-General's disarmament agenda, *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, in particular the section of the agenda entitled "Disarmament that saves lives",

Recognizing the negative impact of the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms and related ammunition on the lives of women, men, girls and boys, and that the Arms Trade Treaty was the first international agreement to identify and call upon States to address the link between conventional arms transfers and the risk of serious acts of gender-based violence and serious acts of violence against women and children,

Recognizing also the important role that civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, industry and relevant international organizations play, by raising awareness, in efforts to prevent and eradicate the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms, including in preventing their diversion, and in supporting the implementation of the Treaty,

Recalling the adoption by the General Assembly and the entry into force of the Treaty on 2 April 2013 and 24 December 2014, respectively, and noting that the Treaty remains open for accession by any State that has not signed it,

Welcoming the latest ratification and acceptance of the Treaty by the Philippines and Gabon, bearing in mind that the universalization of the Treaty is essential to achieving its object and purpose,

Noting the efforts by the States parties to the Treaty to continue to explore ways and means to enhance national implementation of the Treaty through the working group on effective treaty implementation and the voluntary trust fund for the implementation of the Treaty,

Noting with concern the global impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including on the full and effective implementation of the Treaty,

1. *Welcomes* the decisions taken by the Eighth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, held in person with a livestreaming option from 22 to 26 August 2022, which included a thematic focus of the Presidency on post-shipment controls in the context of diversion control, and notes that the Ninth Conference of States Parties will be held in Geneva from 21 to 25 August 2023;

2. *Also welcomes* the continuing progress by the standing working groups on effective treaty implementation, including the important work undertaken in the context of its sub-working groups on articles 6 and 7, article 9 and

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[152] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[153] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[154] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and A/60/88/Corr.2, annex.

[155] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3013, No. 52373.

[156] Resolution 70/1.

article 11, on transparency and reporting, and on universalization in advancing the object and purpose of the Arms Trade Treaty;

3. *Recognizes* that the consolidation of the institutional structure of the Treaty provides a framework for supporting further work under the Treaty, in particular its effective implementation, and in this regard expresses concern about the unpaid assessed contributions of States and the potential adverse implications that this situation entails for the Treaty processes, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to address their financial obligations under the Treaty in a prompt and timely manner;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to ratify, accept, approve or accede to the Treaty, in accordance with their respective constitutional processes, in order to achieve its universalization;

5. *Calls upon* all States parties to submit and encourages them to make available, in a timely manner, and to update, as appropriate, their initial reports, as well as their annual reports for the preceding calendar year, as required under article 13 of the Treaty, thereby enhancing confidence, transparency, trust and accountability, and welcomes the ongoing efforts of the working group on transparency and reporting to facilitate compliance by States parties with their reporting obligations;

6. *Calls upon* those States parties in a position to do so to provide assistance, including legal or legislative assistance, institutional capacity-building and technical, material or financial assistance, to requesting States in order to promote the implementation and universalization of the Treaty;

7. *Stresses* the vital importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with all provisions of the Treaty by States parties, and urges States parties to meet their obligations under the Treaty, thereby contributing to international and regional peace, security and stability, to the reduction of human suffering and to the promotion of cooperation, transparency and responsible action;

8. *Recognizes* the complementarity among all relevant international instruments on conventional arms and the Treaty, and to this end urges all States to implement effective national measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit and unregulated trade in conventional arms and ammunition in fulfilment of their respective international obligations and commitments and to prevent their diversion;

9. *Also recognizes* the outcome of the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[157] adopted in July 2022, and the potential synergies with the Treaty;

10. *Encourages* further steps to enable States to increasingly prevent and tackle the diversion of conventional arms and ammunition to unauthorized end uses or end users during the entire life cycle of the items, welcomes the initiative of the General Assembly to address existing gaps in through-life ammunition management, and recognizes that enhancing reporting rates, transparency and information-sharing, in line with Treaty obligations, is fundamental to achieving this goal;

11. *Welcomes* the inaugural meeting of the Diversion Information Exchange Forum on 24 August 2022, and encourages States parties and signatory States to actively use the Forum and to share, on a voluntary basis, concrete and operational information about cases of suspected or detected diversion, and acknowledges that this is an important step towards tackling diversion by enhancing information-sharing and international cooperation, and a tool to improve practical implementation of the Treaty;

12. *Recalls* the adoption of action-oriented decisions on gender and gender-based violence endorsed by the Fifth Conference of States Parties, encourages States parties to review progress on these two aspects on an ongoing basis, and in that respect encourages States parties and signatory States to ensure the full and equal participation of women and men in pursuing the object and purpose of the Treaty;

13. *Welcomes* the continued support through the voluntary trust fund for the implementation of the Treaty, encourages eligible States to make best use of the voluntary trust fund, and encourages all States parties in a position to do so to contribute to the voluntary trust fund;

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[157] A/CONF.192/BMS/2022/1, annex.

14. *Encourages* States parties and signatory States in a position to do so to provide funding to the Treaty sponsorship programme to support participation in meetings under the Treaty for those States that would otherwise be unable to attend;

15. *Encourages* States parties to strengthen their cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, industry and relevant international organizations and to work with other States parties at the national and regional levels, and invites those stakeholders, in particular those that are underrepresented in Treaty processes, to engage further with States parties with the aim of ensuring the effective implementation and universalization of the Treaty;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The Arms Trade Treaty", and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

RESOLUTION 77/63

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 167 to none, with 17 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[158]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Central African Republic, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

77/63. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/54 B of 1 December 1999, 55/33 V of 20 November 2000, 56/24 M of 29 November 2001, 57/74 of 22 November 2002, 58/53 of 8 December 2003, 59/84 of 3 December 2004, 60/80 of 8 December 2005, 61/84 of 6 December 2006, 62/41 of 5 December 2007, 63/42 of 2 December 2008, 64/56 of 2 December 2009, 65/48 of 8 December 2010, 66/29 of 2 December 2011, 67/32 of 3 December 2012, 68/30 of 5 December 2013, 69/34 of 2 December 2014, 70/55 of 7 December 2015, 71/34 of 5 December 2016, 72/53 of 4 December 2017, 73/61 of 5 December 2018, 74/61 of 12 December 2019, 75/52 of 7 December 2020 and 76/26 of 6 December 2021,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or injure thousands of people – women, girls, boys and men – every year, and which place people living in affected areas at risk and hinder the development of their communities,

[158] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Colombia, Germany and Netherlands.

Believing it necessary to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do the utmost to ensure assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

Noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[159] and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global anti-personnel landmine problem,

Recalling the first to nineteenth meetings of the States parties to the Convention, held in Maputo (1999), Geneva (2000), Managua (2001), Geneva (2002), Bangkok (2003), Zagreb (2005), Geneva (2006), the Dead Sea (2007), Geneva (2008 and 2010), Phnom Penh (2011), Geneva (2012, 2013 and 2015), Santiago (2016), Vienna (2017), Geneva (2018 and 2020) and The Hague (2021), and the First, Second, Third and Fourth Review Conferences of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Nairobi (2004), Cartagena, Colombia (2009), Maputo (2014) and Oslo (2019),

Recalling also that, at the Fourth Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, the international community reviewed the implementation of the Convention and the States parties adopted a declaration and an action plan for the period 2020–2024 to support the enhanced implementation and promotion of the Convention,

Underlining the importance of cooperation and assistance in the implementation of the Convention, including through the so-called individualized approach, which offers mine-affected countries a platform for presenting their challenges,

Stressing the need to take into account gender aspects in mine action,

Noting with satisfaction that 164 States have ratified or acceded to the Convention and have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization and norms,

Noting with deep regret that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in some conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* the one remaining State that has signed but has not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the continued implementation of the action plans under the Convention;

4. *Expresses strong concern* regarding the use of anti-personnel mines in various parts of the world, including use highlighted in recent allegations, reports and documented evidence;

5. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

6. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

7. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine risk education and reduction programmes and the removal and destruction of anti-personnel mines placed or stockpiled throughout the world;

8. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional, regional and multilateral contacts, outreach, seminars and other means;

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[159] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2056, No. 35597.

9. *Invites and encourages* all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Twentieth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, to be held in Geneva from 21 to 25 November 2022, and to participate in the future programme of meetings of the States parties to the Convention;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Twenty-first Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention and, on behalf of the States parties and in accordance with article 12, paragraph 3, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations, to attend the Twenty-first Meeting of the States Parties as observers;

11. *Calls upon* States parties and States participating in meetings to address issues arising from outstanding dues and to proceed promptly with the payment of their share of the estimated costs;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 77/64

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[160]

77/64. Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 70/46 of 7 December 2015, 71/72 of 5 December 2016, 72/36 of 4 December 2017, 73/67 of 5 December 2018 and 75/59 of 7 December 2020, and its decision 76/516 of 6 December 2021,

Expressing grave concern over the devastation caused by the increasing use of improvised explosive devices by illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients,[161] which has affected a large number of countries and has resulted in thousands of casualties, both civilian and military, and in this regard stressing the need for all actors to comply with applicable international law at all times,

Expressing concern over the increased use of and sophistication of the design and means of detonation of improvised explosive devices,

Expressing profound concern at the indiscriminate use and effects of improvised explosive devices and at the increasing humanitarian impact of such attacks on civilian populations worldwide, in particular through the perpetration of terrorist acts, and noting the need for a comprehensive approach in addressing this concern,

Expressing concern at the serious harm that such improvised explosive device attacks have caused to United Nations staff and peacekeepers, and to humanitarian workers, by threatening their lives, increasing the cost of their activities, limiting their freedom of movement and affecting their ability to effectively deliver on their mandates,

Expressing concern also about the negative impact of these attacks on socioeconomic development, infrastructure and freedom of movement, and on the security and stability of States, and thus underlining the need to address this issue in order to achieve relevant goals and targets under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

[160] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia.

[161] See resolution 69/51, A/CONF.192/BMS/2014/2, A/71/187 and Security Council resolution 2370 (2017).

Development,[162] in particular target 16.1 on significantly reducing all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere,

Urging Member States to ensure that any measures taken or means employed to implement the present resolution comply with international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations, applicable international humanitarian law and human rights law,

Recognizing the importance of full involvement and equal opportunities for participation for both women and men in countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices,

Underlining the importance of addressing the threat of improvised explosive devices and their differential impacts on women, girls, boys and men,

Recognizing that the wide spectrum of materials that can be used for the manufacture of improvised explosive devices, including those sourced from the military and civilian industry, contributes to their diverse nature and their deployment methods, which thus requires an appropriate approach to the formulation of measures to counter them,

Noting that the impact of improvised explosive devices spans a wide array of policy areas and that, owing to the extent of the cross-cutting nature of the issue, a whole-of-government approach focusing on the capacity of Governments to effectively bring together several policy strands for comprehensive action is essential,

Underlining the important role that States can play in raising awareness among private sector and other entities about the possible theft, diversion and misuse of their products to make improvised explosive devices, with a view to enabling those entities to develop effective strategies to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices,[163] including to prevent the adverse impact of the diversion of materials and the potential loss of revenue and risk to reputation, either in a partnership with governmental authorities, or through business-to-business processes or activities,

Noting existing industry-led initiatives that seek to increase industry oversight and accountability along the supply chain for precursor components, and encouraging States to engage, as appropriate, with private sector industry actors in supporting such initiatives,

Noting also the contribution of good governance, the promotion of human rights, the rule of law, adherence to the principles of the Charter and sustained and inclusive socioeconomic growth, including through effective measures and mechanisms for persons belonging to vulnerable groups, as important elements in comprehensively addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices, in particular in post-conflict situations,

Stressing the paramount need to prevent illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients from, and identify the networks that support them in, obtaining, handling, financing, storing, using or seeking access to all types of explosives, whether military or civilian, as well as other military or civilian materials and components that can be used to manufacture improvised explosive devices, including detonators, detonating cords and chemical components, while at the same time avoiding any undue restrictions on the legitimate use of those materials,

Recalling, in this context, relevant resolutions on the prevention of the acquisition of weapons by terrorists, including improvised explosive device components, and their transfer to and between terrorists, associated groups and other illegal armed groups and criminals,[164]

Recalling also relevant resolutions on improvised explosive device threat mitigation, including those addressing the indiscriminate use of improvised explosive devices and the impact on peacekeeping operations, special political missions and humanitarian responses,[165]

Stressing the importance of effectively securing conventional ammunition stockpiles in order to mitigate the risk of their diversion to illicit use as materials for improvised explosive devices, and noting the voluntary, practical International Ammunition Technical Guidelines in this regard,

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[162] Resolution 70/1.

[163] See the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework (A/HRC/17/31, annex).

[164] See Security Council resolution 2370 (2017).

[165] See Security Council resolution 2365 (2017).

Noting, in this regard, the establishment pursuant to General Assembly resolution 76/233 of 24 December 2021 of an open-ended working group to elaborate a set of political commitments as a new global framework that will address existing gaps in through-life ammunition management,

Stressing the importance of engagement by all Member States in a comprehensive and coordinated community of action to counter the global threat posed by improvised explosive devices in the hands of illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, taking into account national capacities,

Noting that, at the global level, organizations across many sectors have expertise that can contribute to a useful set of measures for the mitigation of improvised explosive devices, and noting also the value of considered and coordinated efforts by various stakeholders, including intergovernmental and regional organizations and industry associations, with a view to investing effectively in coordination and information exchange,

Noting also the discussions on the issue of improvised explosive devices by the informal group of experts under the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II)[166] and on the technical annex to the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V)[167] to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[168]

Noting further that, for States parties thereto, anti-personnel mines of an improvised nature also fall within the scope of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[169]

Noting the multilateral efforts to counter improvised explosive devices of the Programme Global Shield, led by the World Customs Organization and assisted by the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to prevent the smuggling and illicit diversion of precursor chemicals that could be used to build improvised explosive devices, the network of regional and multilateral communities of action established by States to counter improvised explosive devices, the research to counter the proliferation and use of those devices undertaken by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the work undertaken by the Mine Action Service of the United Nations to mitigate the threat posed by those devices to civilians, United Nations staff, peacekeepers and humanitarian personnel, in particular in the field,

Recalling the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings[170] and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[171] and the efforts undertaken to strengthen the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the Strategy, including through the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism,[172]

Reaffirming the inherent right of Member States to individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 73/67,[173] including the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Recognizes* that existing approaches in multilateral arms regulation, while valuable, do not fully address the use of improvised explosive devices in conflict and immediate post-conflict environments, and therefore strongly urges States to develop and implement, where appropriate, all national measures, including outreach and partnerships with relevant actors, including the private sector, necessary to promote awareness, vigilance and good practices among their nationals, persons subject to their jurisdiction and firms incorporated in their territory or subject to their

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[166] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2048, No. 22495.

[167] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.

[168] Ibid., vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[169] Ibid., vol. 2056, No. 35597.

[170] Ibid., vol. 2149, No. 37517.

[171] Resolution 60/288.

[172] See resolution 71/291.

[173] A/75/175 and A/75/175/Corr.1.

jurisdiction that are involved in the production, sale, supply, purchase, transfer and/or storage of precursor components and materials that could be used to make improvised explosive devices;

3. *Strongly encourages* States, where appropriate, to develop and adopt their own national policy to counter improvised explosive devices that includes civilian-military cooperation, to strengthen their countermeasure capability, to prevent their territory from being used for terrorist purposes and to combat illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients in their use of improvised explosive devices, while bearing in mind their obligations under applicable international law, and notes that the policy could include measures to support international and regional efforts to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from and mitigate attacks using improvised explosive devices and their widespread consequences;

4. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, as well as the United Nations system and other relevant organizations and institutions supporting affected States, to increase attention to prevention and to provide support to reduce the risks posed by improvised explosive devices in a manner that takes into consideration the different needs of women, girls, boys and men;

5. *Stresses* the need for States to take appropriate measures to strengthen the management of their national ammunition stockpiles to prevent the diversion of materials for making improvised explosive devices to illicit markets, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, and encourages the application of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines for the safer and more secure management of ammunition stockpiles, while also recognizing the importance of capacity-building, through both technical and financial assistance, in this regard, as well as the contributions made by various United Nations entities to that end;[174]

6. *Underlines* that, for the issue of improvised explosive devices to be effectively addressed, it is essential to comprehend the importance of action needed at the local and community levels, engaging with community leaders and relevant civil society organizations through activities ranging from awareness-raising of the threat posed by such devices and of possible threat mitigation measures, in conjunction with distributors and local retailers, and intelligence-gathering, to establishing deradicalization programmes, and the need for Governments to engage continuously with local authorities and groups, and encourages States in a position to do so to support initiatives and efforts to that end;

7. *Encourages* States to enhance, as appropriate, international and regional cooperation, including the sharing of information on good practices as appropriate and where relevant, in cooperation with the private sector, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Customs Organization, in order to address the theft, trafficking, diversion, loss and illicit use of materials for making improvised explosive devices, while ensuring the security of sensitive information that is shared;

8. *Encourages* States and the private sector to increase prevention efforts by taking measures to stem the transfer of knowledge of improvised explosive devices and their construction and use by illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, as well as measures to stem the illicit acquisition of components over the Internet;

9. *Encourages* States to increase prevention efforts by taking measures, including awareness-raising, support for research and data collection, to combat illicit procurement of components, explosives and materials for the construction of improvised explosive devices, including through the use of the "dark web";[175]

10. *Also encourages* States to participate, in accordance with their obligations and commitments, in the ongoing work on improvised explosive devices by the informal group of experts under the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996 (Amended Protocol II) to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, while recognizing the role of the United Nations and other international organizations in providing technical support and insight for these discussions;

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[174] The General Assembly, in its resolution 66/42, welcomed the completion of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines and the establishment of the "Safer*Guard*" knowledge resource management programme for the stockpile management of conventional ammunition.

[175] Content of the dark web exists on overlay networks that use the Internet, but accessing this content requires specific software, configurations or authorizations because it is not indexed by search engines.

11. *Welcomes* the adoption by the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II of the updated Declaration on Improvised Explosive Devices[176] at the twenty-third annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, as welcomed by the Sixth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention;

12. *Takes note* of the updated one-time voluntary questionnaire on countering improvised explosive devices[177] with a view to enhancing information-sharing, international cooperation and assistance and strengthening national capacities of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II in mitigating the problem of such devices, including through the establishment of a network of national points of contact;

13. *Encourages* States to participate, as appropriate, in a comprehensive and coordinated community of action to counter improvised explosive devices in accordance with their respective international obligations and commitments, and to consider supporting the Programme Global Shield of the World Customs Organization and other multilateral and regional efforts;

14. *Encourages* States, the United Nations and international, regional and other organizations with relevant expertise that are in a position to do so to render to interested States, upon their request, technical, financial and material assistance aimed at strengthening the capacity of such States to counter the threat of improvised explosive devices, including through assistance for the development of good practices for the protection of civilians from attacks using such devices and for the development of standards to ensure the safety of personnel involved in the disposal of improvised explosive devices, and to provide appropriate assistance to the victims of such attacks;

15. *Encourages* States to respond to the needs of today's peacekeepers to operate in new threat environments involving improvised explosive devices, including by providing, in consultation and cooperation with the Department of Peace Operations of the Secretariat, the appropriate training, capabilities, information and knowledge management and technology required to counter improvised explosive devices, and to ensure that adequate financial resources are allocated to meet such needs, takes note of the Guidelines on Improvised Explosive Device Threat Mitigation in Mission Settings developed by the Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Operational Support of the Secretariat,[178] and encourages the full implementation of the Guidelines in all peacekeeping operations;

16. *Recognizes* that improvised explosive devices are being increasingly used in terrorist activities, takes note of the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime related to the prevention of the acquisition of weapons by terrorists, and encourages all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to address the issue of improvised explosive devices, as appropriate and in line with their respective mandates, and to coordinate their activities to that end;

17. *Notes* the efforts of the Working Group on Border Management related to Counter-Terrorism of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact to promote the resolution on preventing terrorists from acquiring weapons, and welcomes the technical guidelines developed by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre of the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research with the aim to eliminate the supply of improvised explosive devices and related components to terrorists through the development of preventive, deterrent, mitigating and response actions and measures;[179]

18. *Urges* Member States to comply fully with all relevant United Nations resolutions, including those related to preventing terrorist groups from using and accessing materials that can be used in the making of improvised explosive devices;[180]

19. *Encourages* States and relevant international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations, including international industry associations, to continue to build upon existing awareness, prevention

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[176] CCW/AP.II/CONF.23/6, annex V.

[177] CCW/AP.II/CONF.23/5.

[178] Available at www.un.org/disarmament/convarms/ieds.

[179] Security Council resolution 2370 (2017).

[180] Including Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 2160 (2014), 2161 (2014), 2199 (2015), 2253 (2015), 2255 (2015) and 2370 (2017).

and risk education campaigns regarding the urgent threat of improvised explosive devices and to disseminate threat mitigation measures;

20. *Encourages* States and relevant international and regional organizations to engage, as appropriate, with private sector entities in discussions and initiatives on countering improvised explosive devices, including on issues such as accountability throughout the supply chain for dual-use components, traceability procedures, improving the regulation of explosive precursors, where possible and as appropriate, strengthening security for the transport and storage of explosives and of precursors, as well as enhancing the vetting procedures for personnel with access to explosives or to precursors useful to the manufacture of explosives, while avoiding undue restrictions on the legitimate use of and access to such materials;

21. *Notes* the relevant research undertaken by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, encourages it to continue research in the area of prevention strategies, and encourages States in a position to do so to continue to support its work in this area;

22. *Strongly encourages* States to share information, on a voluntary basis, on the diversion of commercial-grade explosives and commercially available detonators to the illicit trade and transfer to illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, through relevant channels, including the INTERPOL Project Watchmaker, Chemical Anti-Smuggling Enforcement and Chemical Risk Identification and Mitigation projects and the Programme Global Shield of the World Customs Organization;

23. *Encourages* States to share information related to countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;

24. *Takes into account* the existing initiatives at the international, regional and national levels to counter improvised explosive devices, and encourages the engagement by States in an open and inclusive dialogue on steps forward to harmonize diverse ongoing efforts, including those on raising awareness and preventive strategies;

25. *Urges* States in a position to do so to contribute funding to the diverse areas of work needed to effectively address the issue of improvised explosive devices, including research, clearance, ammunition stockpile management, preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, awareness-raising, capacity-building, information management and victim assistance, through existing trust funds and arrangements, including those of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations voluntary trust fund for assistance in mine action, efforts undertaken under relevant conventions[181] or through regional or national programmes;

26. *Welcomes* the ongoing management by the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in coordination with other relevant entities, of an online information hub that provides impartial, authoritative information relevant to addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices in a comprehensive manner, and encourages States to utilize the hub to access existing initiatives, policies, documents and tools relevant to countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;

27. *Recalls* the completion of the United Nations Improvised Explosive Device Disposal Standards, coordinated by the Mine Action Service of the United Nations in cooperation with national technical experts, applicable where the context or mandate is not humanitarian;

28. *Notes* the completion of the update of the United Nations Peacekeeping Missions Military Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit Manual, the Military Engineer Unit and Counter Explosive Threat (CET) Search and Detect Manual and the Military Infantry Unit Manual by the Department of Peace Operations, incorporating the United Nations Improvised Explosive Device Disposal Standards to support the capacity of United Nations peacekeepers to effectively address the risks posed by improvised explosive devices;

29. *Recalls* the completion of the update of the International Mine Action Standards with regard to improvised explosive devices, which serve as the guiding framework for humanitarian mine action operations;

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[181] Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction.

30. *Notes* that the United Nations Policy on Victim Assistance in Mine Action highlights the significance of integrating survivor assistance efforts into broader international and national frameworks, as well as the importance of sustained services and support to survivors, including the survivors of attacks involving improvised explosive devices;

31. *Takes note* of the report of the independent strategic review on the responses of United Nations peacekeeping operations to improvised explosive devices,[182] with a view towards mitigating the threat of improvised explosive devices in United Nations mission areas, and encourages sustained efforts towards the urgent implementation of its recommendations;

32. *Notes* the use by interested States of the counter-improvised explosive device self-assessment tool developed by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to assess priorities for the design, implementation and review of national preventive and preparedness measures in countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices, and encourages interested States to make use of it and, on a voluntary basis, to report to the Institute on its use and on areas for further development;

33. *Recognizes* the important contribution of civil society to addressing the issue of improvised explosive devices, including in clearance, awareness-raising, risk education, victim assistance and preventing violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, in particular at the local and community levels;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, acknowledging and taking into account existing efforts, both inside and outside the United Nations, and seeking the views of Member States;

35. *Encourages* States to continue to hold open, informal consultations, where appropriate, focusing on raising awareness, prevention and coordination within the United Nations system and beyond, with information provided by States, international and regional organizations as well as experts from non-governmental organizations, including relevant private sector stakeholders, on efforts to prevent, counter and mitigate the threat posed by improvised explosive devices, which could assist the General Assembly in maintaining a comprehensive overview of relevant global activities;

36. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices".

RESOLUTION 77/65

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 120 to 42, with 20 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[183]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian

[182] S/2021/1042, annex.

[183] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cuba, Eritrea, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Philippines, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Malta, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Pakistan, Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, South Africa, Sudan, Uzbekistan

77/65. Nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999, 55/33 T of 20 November 2000, 56/24 R of 29 November 2001, 57/79 of 22 November 2002, 58/56 of 8 December 2003, 59/77 of 3 December 2004, 60/70 of 8 December 2005, 61/78 of 6 December 2006, 62/42 of 5 December 2007, 63/46 of 2 December 2008, 64/53 of 2 December 2009, 65/56 of 8 December 2010, 66/51 of 2 December 2011, 67/60 of 3 December 2012, 68/47 of 5 December 2013, 69/48 of 2 December 2014, 70/52 of 7 December 2015, 71/63 of 5 December 2016, 72/38 of 4 December 2017, 73/50 of 5 December 2018, 74/45 of 19 December 2019, 75/63 of 7 December 2020 and 76/46 of 6 December 2021 on nuclear disarmament,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972[184] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993[185] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan, transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

Recognizing the urgent need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[186] calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

Reaffirming the conviction of the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[187] that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, and the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, the decision on the extension of the Treaty and the resolution on the Middle East, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[188]

Stressing the importance of the 13 steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to achieve the objective of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons, as agreed to by the States parties in the Final

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[184] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

[185] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

[186] Resolution S-10/2.

[187] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[188] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex.

Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[189]

Recognizing the important work done at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[190] and affirming its 22-point action plan on nuclear disarmament as an impetus to intensify work aimed at beginning negotiations for a nuclear weapons convention,

Regretting that the tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held from 1 to 26 August 2022, following the ninth Review Conference, held from 27 April to 22 May 2015, did not reach agreement on the substantive final document,

Reaffirming the continued validity of agreements reached at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference and the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences until all their objectives are achieved, and calling for their full and immediate fulfilment, including the action plan on nuclear disarmament adopted at the 2010 Review Conference,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

Reiterating its call for an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[191]

Noting the new strategic arms reduction treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America, in order to achieve further cuts in their deployed and non-deployed strategic nuclear weapons, and stressing that such cuts should be irreversible, verifiable and transparent,

Noting also the statements by nuclear-weapon States of their intention to pursue actions in achieving a world free of nuclear weapons, as well as the steps taken to reduce the role and number of nuclear weapons, and urging nuclear-weapon States to take further measures for progress on nuclear disarmament within a specified framework of time,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and that bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiations in this respect,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States, without exception or discrimination, against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances, and the multilateral efforts in the Conference to reach agreement on such an international convention at an early date,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,[192] and welcoming the unanimous reaffirmation by all judges of the Court that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Recalling also paragraph 176 of the Final Document of the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, in which the Conference on Disarmament was called upon to agree on a balanced and comprehensive programme of work by, inter alia, establishing an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament as soon as possible and as the highest priority, while the necessity was emphasized of starting negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, without further delay, on a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention that sets, inter alia, a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time,

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[189] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[190] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

[191] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

[192] A/51/218, annex.

Noting the adoption of the programme of work for the 2009 session by the Conference on Disarmament on 29 May 2009,[193] after years of stalemate, and regretting that the Conference did not succeed in reaching consensus on a programme of work for its 2022 session,

Reaffirming the proposals submitted by the States members of the Conference on Disarmament that are members of the Group of 21 on the follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament, pursuant to Assembly resolution 68/32 of 5 December 2013, as contained in documents of the Conference,[194]

Reaffirming also the importance and validity of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and expressing the need to adopt and implement a balanced and comprehensive programme of work on the basis of its agenda and dealing with, inter alia, four core issues, in accordance with the rules of procedure,[195] and by taking into consideration the security concerns of all States,

Reaffirming further the specific mandate conferred upon the Disarmament Commission by the General Assembly, in its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998, to discuss the subject of nuclear disarmament as one of its main substantive agenda items,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[196] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving that aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Underlining the importance of convening, as a priority, a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard,

Recalling the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament held on 26 September 2013, and the strong support for nuclear disarmament expressed therein,

Welcoming the commemoration of 26 September as the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, devoted to furthering this objective, as declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/32 and subsequently welcomed in its resolutions 69/58 of 2 December 2014, 70/34 of 7 December 2015, 71/71 of 5 December 2016, 72/251 of 24 December 2017, 73/40 of 5 December 2018, 74/54 of 19 December 2019, 75/45 of 17 December 2020 and 76/36 of 6 December 2021,

Recalling the declaration of the States members of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean on the International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons, in Mexico City on 26 September 2022,

Expressing deep concern about the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons,

Recalling the successful convening of the first, second, third and fourth Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons, in Oslo on 4 and 5 March 2013, in Nayarit, Mexico, on 13 and 14 February 2014, and in Vienna on 8 and 9 December 2014 and on 20 June 2022, and recalling also that 127 nations have formally endorsed the Humanitarian Pledge issued following the third Conference,[197]

Recalling also the signing by the nuclear-weapon States, namely, China, France, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, of the Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia,[198] in New York on 6 May 2014,

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[193] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27), para. 18.

[194] See CD/1999 and CD/2067.

[195] CD/8/Rev.9.

[196] Resolution 55/2.

[197] See CD/2039.

[198] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2970, No. 51633.

Recalling further the proclamation of Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace on 29 January 2014 during the Second Summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, held in Havana on 28 and 29 January 2014,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons[199] on 22 January 2021 and the successful convening of the first Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty in Vienna from 21 to 23 June 2022,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

Seized of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Urges* all nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures to achieve the total elimination of all nuclear weapons at the earliest possible time;

2. *Reaffirms* that nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation are substantively interrelated and mutually reinforcing, that the two processes must go hand in hand and that there is a genuine need for a systematic and progressive process of nuclear disarmament;

3. *Welcomes and encourages* the efforts to establish new nuclear-weapon-free zones in different parts of the world, including the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons, on the basis of agreements or arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned, which is an effective measure for limiting the further spread of nuclear weapons geographically and contributes to the cause of nuclear disarmament;

4. *Encourages* States parties to the Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone[200] and the nuclear-weapon States to intensify ongoing efforts to resolve all outstanding issues, in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Treaty;

5. *Recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

6. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

7. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems, while stressing that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in and the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

8. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to achieving the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;

9. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons;

10. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of their nuclear weapons, in an irreversible, verifiable and transparent manner, as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

11. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principles of transparency, irreversibility and verifiability to the process of nuclear disarmament;

12. *Also underlines* the importance of the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties

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[199] A/CONF.229/2017/8.

[200] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1981, No. 33873.

are committed under article VI of the Treaty, and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;[201]

13. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the 13 practical steps for nuclear disarmament contained in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference;

14. *Also calls for* the full implementation of the action plan as set out in the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, particularly the 22-point action plan on nuclear disarmament;

15. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, including on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

16. *Calls for* the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament, in the context of an agreed, comprehensive and balanced programme of work, on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[202] and the mandate contained therein;

17. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to commence as early as possible its substantive work during its 2023 session, on the basis of a comprehensive and balanced programme of work that takes into consideration all the real and existing priorities in the field of disarmament and arms control, including the immediate commencement of negotiations on a comprehensive nuclear weapons convention;

18. *Calls for* the conclusion of an international legal instrument on unconditional security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

19. *Also calls for* the early entry into force, universalization and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a contribution to nuclear disarmament, while welcoming the ratifications by the Gambia on 24 March 2022, Tuvalu on 31 March 2022, Dominica on 30 June 2022, Timor-Leste on 1 August 2022, as well as the latest ratifications by Equatorial Guinea on 21 September 2022 and by Sao Tome and Principe on 22 September 2022;

20. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, as soon as possible and as the highest priority, an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament in 2023 and to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified framework of time;

21. *Calls for* the convening, as soon as possible, of a United Nations high-level international conference on nuclear disarmament to review the progress made in this regard;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

RESOLUTION 77/66

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 176 to none, with 3 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[203]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana,

[201] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 2.

[202] CD/1299.

[203] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Argentina.

Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: India, Israel, Pakistan

77/66. Eleventh Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2373 (XXII) of 12 June 1968, the annex to which contains the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[204]

Recalling also the outcomes of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[205] of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty[206] and of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[207]

Recalling further the decision of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on improving the effectiveness of the strengthened review process for the Treaty,[208] which reaffirmed the provisions in the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty, adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,[209]

Noting the decision of the tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty, held from 1 to 26 August 2022, that the eleventh Review Conference should be held in 2026 and that three sessions of the Preparatory Committee should be held in the years prior to the Review Conference,[210]

Recalling the decision of the tenth Review Conference to establish a working group on further strengthening the review process of the Treaty,[211]

Recalling also that the tenth Review Conference was not able to reach consensus, despite intensive consultations on a substantive final document,

1. *Takes note* of the decision of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, following appropriate consultations, to hold the first session of the Preparatory Committee in 2023 in Vienna, and that the available dates are from 31 July to 11 August;

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[204] See also United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[205] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex.

[206] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II), NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III) and NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part IV).

[207] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

[208] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I.

[209] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex, decision 1.

[210] See NPT/CONF.2020/DEC.2.

[211] Ibid.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the eleventh Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its Preparatory Committee.

RESOLUTION 77/67

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 131 to 38, with 11 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[212]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Central African Republic, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Georgia, India, Japan, Pakistan, Serbia, Switzerland

77/67. Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 75/73 of 7 December 2020, adopted on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, which was established to save succeeding generations from the untold suffering of the scourge of war, and its resolution 76/25 of 6 December 2021,

Recalling also that the United Nations emerged at the time of the immense trail of death and destruction resulting from the Second World War, over 75 years ago,

Recalling further the noble principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which enjoin the international community, individually and collectively, to spare no effort in promoting the ethical imperative of "in larger freedom", so that all peoples may enjoy freedom from want, freedom from fear and the freedom to live in dignity,

Convinced that, given the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with a nuclear weapon detonation, Member States have long envisaged nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation as urgent and interlinked ethical imperatives in achieving the objectives of the Charter, which is reflected in the first resolution, resolution 1 (I), adopted by the General Assembly on 24 January 1946, aimed at the elimination from national armaments of atomic weapons and of all other major weapons adaptable to mass destruction,

Acknowledging, in this connection, the ethical imperatives outlined in the provisions of its resolutions and reports and those of other related international initiatives on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks posed by a nuclear weapon detonation, including the declaration that the use of nuclear weapons would cause indiscriminate suffering and as such is a violation of the Charter and the laws of humanity and international law,[213]

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[212] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cabo Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Ireland, Kiribati, Lesotho, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Samoa, South Africa, Thailand, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[213] See resolution 1653 (XVI).

the condemnation of nuclear war as contrary to human conscience and a violation of the fundamental right to life,[214] the threat to the very survival of humankind posed by the existence of nuclear weapons,[215] the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,[216] and the disquiet that was expressed at the continued spending on the development and maintenance of nuclear arsenals,[217]

Acknowledging also the preamble to and article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[218] and the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,[219] in which the Court unanimously concluded that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Acknowledging further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[220] in which Heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving that aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Concerned that, despite the long-standing recognition that it has accorded to these ethical imperatives and while much effort has been directed to addressing nuclear non-proliferation, limited progress has been made in meeting the nuclear disarmament obligations required to achieve and maintain the nuclear-weapon-free world that the international community demands,

Disappointed at the continued absence of progress towards multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament in the Conference on Disarmament, despite unrelenting efforts of Member States towards this end,

Noting with satisfaction the increasing awareness, renewed attention and growing momentum that has been generated by Member States and the international community since 2010 regarding the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks associated with nuclear weapons, which underpin the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, together with all related international initiatives,

Recalling the adoption on 7 July 2017 of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons,[221] in which the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament are acknowledged, welcoming its entry into force on 22 January 2021, and noting the first Meeting of States Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, held in Vienna from 21 to 23 June 2022, at which the status and implementation of the Treaty were examined,

Conscious of the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in relation to nuclear disarmament, and determined to promote multilateralism as essential to nuclear disarmament negotiations,

1. *Calls upon* all States to acknowledge the catastrophic humanitarian consequences and risks posed by a nuclear weapon detonation, whether by accident, miscalculation or design;

2. *Acknowledges* the ethical imperatives for nuclear disarmament and the urgency of achieving and maintaining a nuclear-weapon-free world, which is a "global public good of the highest order", serving both national and collective security interests;

3. *Declares* that:

(a) The global threat posed by nuclear weapons must urgently be eliminated;

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[214] See resolution 38/75.

[215] See resolution S-10/2.

[216] See resolution 50/70 M.

[217] See A/59/119.

[218] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[219] A/51/218, annex.

[220] Resolution 55/2.

[221] A/CONF.229/2017/8.

(b) Discussions, decisions and actions on nuclear weapons must focus on the effects of these weapons on human beings and the environment and must be guided by the unspeakable suffering and unacceptable harm that they cause;

(c) Greater attention must be given to the impact of a nuclear weapon detonation on women and the importance of their participation in discussions, decisions and actions on nuclear weapons;

(d) Nuclear weapons serve to undermine collective security, heighten the risk of nuclear catastrophe, aggravate international tension and make conflict more dangerous;

(e) Arguments in favour of the retention of nuclear weapons have a negative impact on the credibility of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime;

(f) The long-term plans for the modernization of nuclear weapons arsenals run contrary to commitments and obligations to nuclear disarmament and engender perceptions of the indefinite possession of these weapons;

(g) In a world where basic human needs have not yet been met, the vast resources allocated to the modernization of nuclear weapons arsenals could instead be redirected to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals;[222]

(h) Given the humanitarian impact of nuclear weapons, it is inconceivable that any use of nuclear weapons, irrespective of the cause, would be compatible with the requirements of international humanitarian law or international law, or the laws of morality, or the dictates of public conscience;

(i) Given their indiscriminate nature and potential to annihilate humanity, nuclear weapons are inherently immoral;

4. *Notes* that all responsible States have a solemn duty to take decisions that serve to protect their people and each other from the ravages of a nuclear weapon detonation, and that the only way for States to do so is through the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

5. *Stresses* that all States share an ethical responsibility to act with urgency and determination, with the support of all relevant stakeholders, to take the effective measures, including legally binding measures, necessary to eliminate and prohibit all nuclear weapons, given their catastrophic humanitarian consequences and associated risks;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world".

RESOLUTION 77/68

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 171 to 3, with 8 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[223]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine,

[222] See resolution 70/1.

[223] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Canada, Germany and Netherlands.

United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen

Against: China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan

Abstaining: Central African Republic, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Israel, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

77/68. Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/75 L of 16 December 1993 and all subsequent resolutions and decisions on the subject of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

Mindful of the continuing importance and relevance of the Conference on Disarmament, and recalling the past achievements of that body in successfully negotiating non-proliferation and disarmament agreements,

Gravely concerned by the years of stalemate in the Conference on Disarmament, regretting that negotiations have not been pursued on this issue, and looking forward to the Conference again fulfilling its mandate as the world's single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum,

Convinced that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would represent a significant practical contribution to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation efforts,

Recognizing the essential role of fissile material in the manufacture of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices and the long-standing efforts of the international community to negotiate a treaty that would ban its production for such purposes,

Welcoming the declared voluntary moratoriums by some nuclear-weapon States on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons as an important interim step before the entry into force of a non-discriminatory, multilateral and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

Recognizing that a future treaty should not prohibit the production of fissile material for non-proscribed military purposes or civilian use, consistent with the obligations of States parties, or interfere in any other way with a State's right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy,

Recalling action 15 of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions agreed by consensus at the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[224] that, inter alia, the Conference on Disarmament should, within the context of an agreed, comprehensive and balanced programme of work, immediately begin negotiation of a treaty banning the production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995[225] and the mandate contained therein,

Noting with appreciation the consensus report of the Group of Governmental Experts, mandated in resolution 67/53 of 3 December 2012, as contained in document A/70/81,

Noting with appreciation also the work accomplished in 2017 and 2018 by the high-level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group convened by the Secretary-General following resolution 71/259 of 23 December 2016, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to consider and make recommendations on substantial elements of a future non-discriminatory, multilateral and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein,

Noting with concern that the tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons was not able to make progress in facilitating negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a

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[224] See *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

[225] CD/1299.

treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, as called for in resolution 76/51 of 6 December 2021,

Reaffirming the need to ensure the equal, full and meaningful participation of women in the negotiation process of a future treaty,

Reaffirming also its desire to achieve substantive progress in nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and in particular on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

1. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to immediately commence negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of document CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to make innovative contributions in all appropriate formal and informal forums for facilitating negotiations on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

3. *Calls upon* those States that possess nuclear weapons to declare, if they have not already done so, and uphold a voluntary moratorium on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices".

RESOLUTION 77/69

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 157 to none, with 21 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[226]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates

[226] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zambia.

77/69. Transparency in armaments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993, 49/75 C of 15 December 1994, 50/70 D of 12 December 1995, 51/45 H of 10 December 1996, 52/38 R of 9 December 1997, 53/77 V of 4 December 1998, 54/54 O of 1 December 1999, 55/33 U of 20 November 2000, 56/24 Q of 29 November 2001, 57/75 of 22 November 2002, 58/54 of 8 December 2003, 60/226 of 23 December 2005, 61/77 of 6 December 2006, 63/69 of 2 December 2008, 64/54 of 2 December 2009, 66/39 of 2 December 2011, 68/43 of 5 December 2013, 71/44 of 5 December 2016 and 74/53 of 12 December 2019, entitled "Transparency in armaments",

Continuing to take the view that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

Welcoming, in that regard, the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment of the Register as an important element in the contribution of the United Nations to international peace and security,

Welcoming also the consolidated reports of the Secretary-General on the Register, which include the returns of Member States for 2018,[227] 2019[228] and 2020,[229]

Welcoming further the 2022 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, prepared with the assistance of the 2022 group of governmental experts,[230] including the recommendation that those Member States in a position to do so, using the seven-plus-one formula, provide information on exports and imports of small arms and light weapons, as appropriate, through the online reporting tool or the optional standardized form for reporting international transfers of small arms and light weapons,

Welcoming the response of Member States to the request contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

Recalling the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty[231] on 24 December 2014, and also recalling that the data and information reported by States parties to the Arms Trade Treaty on the export and import of eight categories of conventional arms included in their annual reports can also be submitted to the Register,

Welcoming the consensus report of the 2022 group of governmental experts, nearly half of whom were women, in which the group highlighted the continued importance of the Register as an instrument to support transparency, confidence-building and dialogue in military matters,

Expressing its concern at the low number of reports that have been submitted to the Register by the Member States,

Noting the concern expressed in the report of the 2022 group of governmental experts that the current level of resources of the Secretariat in the field of database management is insufficient, and its recommendation that the United Nations provide sufficient resources to enable the Secretariat to implement its core tasks for the effective operation of the Register,

Stressing that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. *Reaffirms its determination* to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, as provided for in paragraphs 7 to 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

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[227] A/74/201.

[228] A/75/152.

[229] A/76/130.

[230] See A/77/126.

[231] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3013, No. 52373.

2. *Endorses* the report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and the recommendations contained in the consensus report of the 2022 group of governmental experts;[232]

3. *Emphasizes* that it is important for those Member States in a position to do so, using the seven-plus-one formula, to provide information on exports and imports of small arms and light weapons, and decides to adapt the scope of the Register in conformity with the recommendations contained in the 2022 report of the Secretary-General;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General, by 31 May annually, with the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports and rolling nil returns if appropriate, using the online reporting tool, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L and the recommendations contained in the respective reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development;

5. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement through national production and military holdings as part of their background information and to make use of the reference reporting form, or any other method they deem appropriate, for the respective elements;

6. *Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of, participation in and use of the Register under review, and to that end requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened for a week each at the end of 2024 and at the beginning and in the middle of 2025, within existing resources, with the broadest possible participation, and on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation and relevance of the Register, including by exploring the relationship between the participation in, scope of and use of the Register, and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, relevant deliberations within the United Nations, the views expressed by Member States and the reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, with a view to taking a decision at its eightieth session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations contained in his 2000, 2003, 2006, 2009, 2013, 2016, 2019 and 2022 reports on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, in particular the recommendations contained in paragraphs 116 (a) to (u) of the consensus report of the 2022 group of governmental experts that are specifically addressed to the Secretariat;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General in that regard to ensure that sufficient resources are made available by the United Nations, within existing resources, to enable the Secretariat to effectively implement its core functions for the effective operation of the Register, as outlined in paragraphs 116 (a) to (u) of the 2022 report, including in relation to the recommendation in paragraph 116 (g) pertaining to the translation of the online reporting tool and the Register database website into all six official languages of the United Nations, and to ensure that sufficient resources at the appropriate levels are provided in that regard;

9. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

10. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating international and regional efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its eightieth session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

[232] See A/77/126.

RESOLUTION 77/70

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[233]

77/70. Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/49 of 8 December 2010, 67/31 of 3 December 2012, 69/36 of 2 December 2014, 71/65 of 5 December 2016, 73/58 of 5 December 2018 and 75/67 of 7 December 2020,

Convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the achievement of general and complete disarmament, and emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized treaties on the establishment of such zones in different regions of the world in the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime,

Considering that the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia,[234] on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region,[235] constitutes an important step towards strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and ensuring regional and international peace and security,

Considering also that the Treaty is an effective contribution to combating international terrorism and preventing nuclear materials and technologies from falling into the hands of non-State actors, primarily terrorists,

Reaffirming the universally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

Emphasizing the role of the Treaty in promoting cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and in the environmental rehabilitation of territories affected by radioactive contamination, and the importance of stepping up efforts to ensure the safe and reliable storage of radioactive waste in the Central Asian States,

Recognizing the importance of the Treaty, and emphasizing its significance in the attainment of peace and security,

1. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 21 March 2009 of the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia;

2. *Also welcomes* the signing of the Protocol to the Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia[236] on 6 May 2014 by nuclear-weapon States and the ratification of this instrument by four of them, and calls for early completion of the ratification process;

3. *Further welcomes* the submission at the 2020 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of two working papers, on the Treaty and on the environmental consequences of uranium mining;

4. *Welcomes* the convening of consultative meetings of States parties to the Treaty, on 15 October 2009 in Ashgabat, 15 March 2011 in Tashkent, 12 June 2012 in Astana, 27 June 2013 in Astana, 25 July 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, 27 February 2015 in Bishkek and 11 April 2019 in Nur-Sultan, which identified joint activities by the Central Asian States to ensure the fulfilment of the obligations set out in the Treaty and to develop cooperation on disarmament issues with international bodies, as well as the adoption of an action plan of the States parties to the Treaty to strengthen nuclear security, prevent the proliferation of nuclear materials and counter nuclear terrorism in Central Asia;

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[233] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[234] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2970, No. 51633.

[235] Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[236] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2970, No. 51633.

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia".

RESOLUTION 77/71

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[237]

77/71. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/232 of 24 December 2021, as well as all previous resolutions on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

Emphasizing the importance of the continued and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[238] and recognizing its important contribution to international efforts on this matter,

Emphasizing also the importance of the continued and full implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument),[239]

Recalling the commitment of States to the Programme of Action as the main framework for measures within the activities of the international community to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

Underlining the need for States to enhance their efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

Mindful of the implementation of the outcomes adopted by the follow-up meetings on the Programme of Action,

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 27 June to 1 July 2022, to consider the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action, and the outcome document adopted at the Meeting,[240]

Recognizing the need for the strengthened participation of women in decision-making and implementation processes relating to the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, and reaffirming the need for States to mainstream gender dimensions into their implementation efforts,

Noting that web-based tools developed by the Secretariat, including its searchable database and the Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium, and the tools developed by Member States could be used to assess progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action,

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[237] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

[238] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[239] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and A/60/88/Corr.2, annex.

[240] A/CONF.192/BMS/2022/1, annex.

Reaffirming the acknowledgement, by the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (the third Review Conference) in its outcome document,[241] of the proposal on the establishment of a dedicated fellowship training programme on small arms and light weapons in order to strengthen technical knowledge and expertise in areas relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, in particular in developing countries, and the decision taken by the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States in that regard,[242]

Welcoming the series of open, informal consultations held by the Chair-designate of the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States during the first part of 2022,

Noting that voluntary national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action can serve, inter alia, to provide a baseline for measuring progress in its implementation, build confidence and promote transparency, provide a basis for information exchange and action and serve to identify needs and opportunities for international assistance and cooperation, including the matching of needs with available resources and expertise,

Noting with satisfaction regional and subregional efforts being undertaken in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action, and commending the progress that has already been made in this regard, including the tackling of both supply and demand factors that are relevant to addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing that sharing and applying best practices, on a voluntary basis, at the regional, subregional and national levels support the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument and should therefore be an ongoing effort, in order to address ongoing challenges associated with the diversion of and illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

Reaffirming that international cooperation and assistance are an essential aspect of the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument,

Recognizing the efforts undertaken by civil society in the provision of assistance to States for the implementation of the Programme of Action,

Recalling that Governments bear the primary responsibility for preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, in accordance with the sovereignty of States and their relevant international obligations,

Reiterating that illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons is a serious problem that the international community should address urgently,

Highlighting new challenges and potential opportunities with regard to effective marking, record-keeping and tracing resulting from developments in the manufacturing, technology and design of small arms and light weapons, and bearing in mind the different situations, capacities and priorities of States and regions,

Recognizing that the opportunities and challenges associated with these developments in the manufacturing, technology and design of small arms and light weapons, including polymer and modular weapons, and firearms produced using 3D printing, must be addressed in a timely manner,

Recalling the recommendation of the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States that the fourth Review Conference discuss the establishment of an open-ended technical expert group, focusing on including, inter alia, realizing international cooperation in a concrete manner, scope, objectives, participation and modalities of the group, to develop agreed recommendations by consensus to ensure the full implementation of the International Tracing Instrument and the Programme of Action in the light of recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design, in particular polymer and modular weapons, and firearms produced using 3D printing,[243]

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[241] A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3, annex.

[242] A/CONF.192/BMS/2022/1, annex, para. 83.

[243] Ibid., para. 75.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[244] which contains recommendations for enhancing international cooperation and assistance modalities and procedures in the framework of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, based on views received from Member States, international and regional organizations and other stakeholders, for consideration by Member States at the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States,

Welcoming the inclusion of small arms and light weapons in the scope of the Arms Trade Treaty,[245]

Acknowledging that effective national control systems for the transfer of conventional arms contribute to the prevention and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

Recognizing, in this regard, that, in the outcome document of the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States, States took note of the establishment pursuant to General Assembly resolution 76/233 of an open-ended working group to elaborate a set of political commitments as a new global framework that will address existing gaps in through-life ammunition management,[246]

1. *Underlines* the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects requires concerted efforts at the national, regional and international levels to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons, and that their uncontrolled spread in many regions of the world has a wide range of humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences and poses a serious threat to peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development at the individual, local, national, regional and international levels;

2. *Recognizes* the urgent need to maintain and enhance national controls, in accordance with the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including their diversion to illicit trade, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, taking into account, inter alia, their adverse humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences for the affected States;

3. *Emphasizes* the need for States to redouble national efforts to provide for the safe, secure, comprehensive and effective management of stockpiles of small arms and light weapons held by Governments to prevent, combat and eradicate the diversion of those weapons;

4. *Calls upon* all States to implement the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument) by, inter alia, including in their national reports the name and contact information of the national points of contact and information on national marking practices used to indicate country of manufacture and/or country of import, as applicable;

5. *Encourages* all relevant initiatives, including those of the United Nations, other international organizations, regional and subregional organizations and civil society, for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action, and calls upon all Member States to contribute towards the continued implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

6. *Encourages* States to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts established pursuant to resolution 60/81 of 8 December 2005 to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;[247]

7. *Reaffirms* the outcome of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 18 to 29 June 2018 (the third Review Conference);

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[244] A/77/77.

[245] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3013, No. 52373.

[246] A/CONF.192/BMS/2022/1, annex, para. 19.

[247] See A/62/163 and A/62/163/Corr.1.

8. *Endorses* the outcome of the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 27 June to 1 July 2022;

9. *Renews its decision*, pursuant to the schedule of meetings for the period from 2018 to 2024 agreed upon at the third Review Conference and recalled by the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States, to convene the fourth United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects in 2024 for two weeks (20 meetings), to be preceded by a preparatory committee meeting in early 2024 of five days (10 meetings);

10. *Underlines* the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument for attaining Goal 16 and target 16.4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[248]

11. *Emphasizes* the need for the equal, full and effective participation of women in all decision-making and implementation processes relating to the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument;

12. *Encourages* States to take into account recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design, in particular polymer and modular weapons, in the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument and to strengthen normative frameworks, where needed, and cooperation between law enforcement agencies so as to prevent unauthorized recipients, including criminals and terrorists, from acquiring small arms and light weapons;

13. *Emphasizes* that international cooperation and assistance remain essential to the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, while being mindful of the need to ensure the adequacy, accessibility, effectiveness and sustainability of international cooperation and assistance measures, including, as appropriate, improved funding arrangements, technology transfer and adequate training and support programmes, as well as strong national ownership;

14. *Also emphasizes* the fact that initiatives by the international community with respect to international cooperation and assistance remain essential and complementary to national implementation efforts, as well as to those at the regional and global levels;

15. *Recognizes* the necessity for interested States to develop effective coordination mechanisms, where they do not exist, in order to match the needs of States with existing resources to enhance the implementation of the Programme of Action and to make international cooperation and assistance more effective, and in this regard encourages States to make use, as appropriate, of the Programme of Action Implementation Support System;

16. *Encourages* States to consider, among other mechanisms, the coherent identification of needs, priorities, national plans and programmes that may require international cooperation and assistance from States and regional and international organizations in a position to do so;

17. *Encourages* States, with the assistance of the Secretariat, where applicable, to develop options for enhancing the effectiveness of the existing international assistance frameworks in support of the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, including by establishing, within existing resources, a structured procedure within the Secretariat to process requests for assistance submitted under the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, for consideration and appropriate follow-up by Member States at the fourth Review Conference;[249]

18. *Also encourages* States, on a voluntary basis, to make increasing use of their national reports as a tool for communicating assistance needs and information on the resources and mechanisms available to address such needs, and encourages States in a position to render such assistance to make use of those national reports;

19. *Encourages* States, relevant international and regional organizations and civil society with the capacity to do so to cooperate with and provide assistance to other States, upon request, in the preparation of comprehensive national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument;

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[248] Resolution 70/1.

[249] See A/CONF.192/BMS/2022/1, annex, para. 87.

20. *Encourages* States to reinforce, as necessary, cross-border cooperation at the national, subregional and regional levels in addressing the common problem of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, with full respect for each State's sovereignty over its own borders;

21. *Also encourages* States to take full advantage of the benefits of cooperation with the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament, the World Customs Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in accordance with their mandates and consistent with national priorities;

22. *Encourages* all efforts to build national capacity for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action, including those highlighted in the outcome document of the third Review Conference;

23. *Decides* to establish, within the regular budget of the United Nations, a standing dedicated fellowship training programme on small arms and light weapons in order to strengthen the technical and practical knowledge and expertise of government officials directly responsible for the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, particularly in developing countries, to be implemented annually starting in 2024 for a duration of four weeks in-person in four regions, respectively, preceded by a preparatory self-paced online course, with the participation of 15 fellows per region, and requests the Secretary-General to operationalize this decision and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its eightieth session, and periodically thereafter for follow-up;[250]

24. *Encourages* States to submit, on a voluntary basis, national reports on their implementation of the Programme of Action, notes that States will submit national reports on their implementation of the International Tracing Instrument, encourages those States in a position to do so to use the reporting template made available by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, and reaffirms the utility of synchronizing such reports with biennial meetings of States and review conferences as a means of increasing the submission rate and improving the utility of reports, as well as contributing substantively to meeting discussions;

25. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to provide financial assistance, through a voluntary sponsorship fund, that could be distributed, upon request, to States otherwise unable to participate in meetings on the Programme of Action;

26. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Saving Lives Entity fund to ensure sustained financing for coordinated, integrated small arms control measures in countries most affected by the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, and encourages States in a position to do so to make voluntary financial contributions to the fund;

27. *Encourages* interested States and relevant international and regional organizations in a position to do so to convene regional meetings to consider and advance the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as the International Tracing Instrument, including in preparation for the meetings on the Programme of Action;

28. *Encourages* civil society and relevant organizations to strengthen their cooperation and work with States at the respective national and regional levels to achieve the implementation of the Programme of Action;

29. *Reaffirms* the importance of States undertaking to identify, where applicable, groups and individuals engaged in the illegal manufacture, trade, stockpiling, transfer, possession, as well as financing for acquisition, of illicit small arms and light weapons, and take action under appropriate national law against such groups and individuals;[251]

30. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare a comprehensive analysis, within existing resources, of progress in the trends, challenges and opportunities related to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, including with regard to national frameworks, based on available credible information, including information submitted and/or provided by Member States, for presentation at the fourth Review Conference for consideration and appropriate follow-up, prior to which the findings and recommendations of the analysis will be shared with Member States in one or more informal meetings;[252]

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[250] Ibid., para. 83.

[251] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24, sect. II, para. 6.

[252] See A/CONF.192/BMS/2022/1, annex, para. 60.

31. *Also requests* the Secretariat to report on support provided by the United Nations system for the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, including experiences, best practices and lessons learned regarding the efficient use of available resources, for presentation at upcoming meetings on the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument;

32. *Encourages* Member States to discuss at the fourth Review Conference the establishment of an open-ended technical expert group, focusing on including, inter alia, realizing international cooperation in a concrete manner, scope, objectives, participation and modalities of the group, to develop agreed recommendations by consensus to ensure the full implementation of the International Tracing Instrument and the Programme of Action in the light of recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design, in particular polymer and modular weapons, and firearms produced using 3D printing, and requests the Secretariat, within existing resources, to prepare and circulate proposals for the above-mentioned focus issues and any other necessary administrative arrangements in a timely manner prior to the fourth Review Conference so as to facilitate its discussion and to initiate discussions on the mandate of such a group during the preparatory process leading up to the fourth Review Conference;[253]

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

34. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

RESOLUTION 77/72

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[254]

77/72. Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the contribution of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms, adopted on the initiative and with the agreement of the States concerned, to the improvement of the overall international peace and security situation,

Convinced that the relationship between the development of confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms and the international security environment can also be mutually reinforcing,

Considering the important role that confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms can also play in creating favourable conditions for progress in the field of disarmament,

Recognizing that the exchange of information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

Underlining that confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms are key tools in strengthening conflict prevention and reducing armed violence, thereby contributing to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[255]

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[253] Ibid., para. 75.

[254] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye, United States of America and Uruguay.

[255] Resolution 70/1.

Recalling its resolutions 59/92 of 3 December 2004, 60/82 of 8 December 2005, 61/79 of 6 December 2006, 63/57 of 2 December 2008, 65/63 of 8 December 2010, 67/49 of 3 December 2012, 69/64 of 2 December 2014, 71/35 of 5 December 2016, 73/51 of 5 December 2018 and 75/54 of 7 December 2020,

1. *Welcomes* all confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms already undertaken by Member States;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to adopt and apply confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

3. *Invites* Member States to submit to the Secretariat, on a voluntary basis, information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

4. *Encourages* Member States to establish or continue dialogues on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

5. *Appreciates* the continuing operation of the Secretariat database containing information provided by Member States,[256] and requests the Secretary-General to keep the database updated and to assist Member States, at their request, in confidence-building activities and in the organization of seminars, courses and workshops aimed at enhancing the knowledge of new developments in this field;

6. *Recalls* the adoption by the Disarmament Commission in April 2017 of recommendations on practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons;[257]

7. *Notes* that, in those recommendations, Member States are encouraged, as appropriate, and on a voluntary basis, to exchange information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons at the bilateral, subregional, regional and international levels;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms".

RESOLUTION 77/73

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 155 to 6, with 19 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[258]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Algeria, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Central African Republic, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Rwanda, Sudan, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Uganda, Uzbekistan

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[256] See www.un.org/disarmament/cbms.

[257] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/72/42), annex.

[258] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Poland.

77/73. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 76/29 of 6 December 2021,

Determined to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

Honouring the memory of and paying tribute to all victims of chemical weapons,

Reaffirming its strong support for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[259] and for the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and its deep appreciation of the Organisation, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2013 for its extensive efforts to eliminate chemical weapons,

Recalling decisions C-24/DEC.4 and C-24/DEC.5 of 27 November 2019 adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its twenty-fourth session, introducing changes to schedules 1 (A) and 1, respectively, of the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention,

Re-emphasizing its unequivocal support for the decision of the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to continue the mission to establish the facts surrounding the allegations of the use of chemical weapons, including toxic chemicals, for hostile purposes in the Syrian Arab Republic, while stressing that the safety and security of mission personnel remains the top priority, and recalling the work, pursuant to Security Council resolutions 2235 (2015) of 7 August 2015 and 2319 (2016) of 17 November 2016, of the Joint Investigative Mechanism of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United Nations,

Noting the work related to the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, held in The Hague from 21 to 30 November 2018,

Reaffirming the importance of the outcome of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, held in The Hague from 8 to 19 April 2013 (the Third Review Conference), including its consensus final report, in which the Conference addressed all aspects of the Convention and made important recommendations on its continued implementation,

Emphasizing that the Third Review Conference welcomed the fact that the Convention is a unique multilateral agreement banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction in a non-discriminatory and verifiable manner under strict and effective international control and noted with satisfaction that the Convention continues to be a remarkable success and an example of effective multilateralism,

Noting that 29 April 2022 marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention,

Convinced that the Convention, 25 years after its entry into force, has reinforced its role as the international norm against chemical weapons, and that it constitutes a major contribution to:

(a) International peace and security,

(b) Eliminating chemical weapons and preventing their re-emergence,

(c) The ultimate objective of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

(d) Excluding completely, for the sake of all mankind, the possibility of the use of chemical weapons,

(e) Promoting international cooperation and exchange in scientific and technical information in the field of chemical activities among States parties for peaceful purposes in order to enhance the economic and technological development of all States parties,

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[259] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

Noting the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the work of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and all efforts to ensure its effectiveness,

1. *Reaffirms its condemnation in the strongest possible terms* of the use of chemical weapons by anyone under any circumstances, emphasizing that any use of chemical weapons anywhere, at any time, by anyone, under any circumstances is unacceptable and is and would be a violation of international law and expressing its strong conviction that those individuals responsible for the use of chemical weapons must and should be held accountable;

2. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* the use of a toxic chemical as a weapon against Alexei Navalny in the Russian Federation, and notes with grave concern the note by the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons of 6 October 2020 on the summary of the report on activities carried out in support of a request for technical assistance by Germany;[260]

3. *Also condemns in the strongest possible terms* that chemical weapons have since 2012 been used in Iraq, Malaysia, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, including as reported by the Joint Investigative Mechanism of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the United Nations and by the Investigation and Identification Team of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in:

(a) The reports of the Joint Investigative Mechanism of 24 August 2016[261] and 21 October 2016,[262] which concluded that there was sufficient information to determine that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces were responsible for the attacks which released toxic substances in Talmenes, Syrian Arab Republic, on 21 April 2014, in Sarmin, Syrian Arab Republic, on 16 March 2015, and in Qmenas, Syrian Arab Republic, also on 16 March 2015, and that the so-called "Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant" used sulfur mustard in Marea, Syrian Arab Republic, on 21 August 2015;

(b) The report of the Joint Investigative Mechanism of 26 October 2017,[263] which concluded that there was sufficient information to be confident that Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant was responsible for the use of sulfur mustard at Umm Hawsh on 15 and 16 September 2016 and that the Syrian Arab Republic was responsible for the release of sarin at Khan Shaykhun on 4 April 2017;

(c) The first report of the Investigation and Identification Team, of 8 April 2020,[264] which concluded that there were reasonable grounds to believe that the Syrian Arab Air Force used chemical weapons in Ltamenah on 24, 25 and 30 March 2017;

(d) The second report of the Investigation and Identification Team, of 12 April 2021,[265] which concluded that there were reasonable grounds to believe that a military helicopter of the Syrian Arab Air Force carried out a chemical weapons attack on Saraqib on 4 February 2018; and demands that the perpetrators immediately desist from any further use of chemical weapons;

4. *Takes note with great concern in that regard* of the reports of the fact-finding mission of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons regarding alleged incidents in Ltamenah,[266] Saraqib[267] and Duma,[268] Syrian Arab Republic, as well as reports regarding the alleged incidents in Marea[269] and Kafr Zayta,[270] Syrian Arab Republic, which concluded there were reasonable grounds to believe that a toxic chemical or a vesicant chemical substance from 1.A.04 scheduled chemicals under the Convention had been used as a weapon;

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[260] S/1906/2020.

[261] See S/2016/738/Rev.1.

[262] See S/2016/888.

[263] See S/2017/904, annex.

[264] See S/2020/310, annex.

[265] See S/2021/371, annex.

[266] See S/2017/931, annex, and S/2018/620, annex.

[267] See S/2018/478, annex.

[268] See S/2019/208, annex.

[269] See S/2022/85, annex.

[270] See S/2022/116, annex.

5. *Recalls* the adoption of:

(a) Decision C-SS-4/DEC.3 of the Fourth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties, entitled "Addressing the threat from chemical weapons use", of 27 June 2018;

(b) Decision EC-94/DEC.2 of the Executive Council, entitled "Addressing the possession and use of chemical weapons by the Syrian Arab Republic", of 9 July 2020;

(c) Decision C-25/DEC.9 of the Conference of the States Parties, entitled "Addressing the possession and use of chemical weapons by the Syrian Arab Republic", of 21 April 2021;

and stresses the importance of their implementation, in accordance with the Convention, and, accordingly, expresses concern with the conclusions contained in the report of the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons of 14 October 2020 on the implementation of decision EC-94/DEC.2;[271]

6. *Takes note* of decision C-26/DEC.10 of the Conference of the States Parties, entitled "Understanding regarding the aerosolised use of central nervous system-acting chemicals for law enforcement purposes", of 1 December 2021;

7. *Emphasizes* that the universality of the Convention is essential to achieving its object and purpose and to enhancing the security of States parties, as well as to international peace and security, underlines the fact that the objectives of the Convention will not be fully realized as long as there remains even a single State not party to the Convention that could possess or acquire such weapons, calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay, and in this regard recalls the outcome of the Third Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (the Third Review Conference);

8. *Underlines* the fact that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of all articles of the Convention makes a major contribution to international peace and security through the elimination of existing stockpiles of chemical weapons and the prohibition of their acquisition and use, and provides for assistance and protection in the event of use or threat of use of chemical weapons and for international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities;

9. *Notes* the impact of scientific and technological progress on the effective implementation of the Convention and the importance for the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and its policymaking organs of taking due account of such developments;

10. *Reaffirms* that the obligation of the States parties to complete the destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles and the destruction or conversion of chemical weapons production facilities in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Annex on Implementation and Verification (Verification Annex) and under the verification of the Technical Secretariat of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons is essential for the realization of the object and purpose of the Convention;

11. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

12. *Recalls* that the Third Review Conference expressed concern regarding the statement made by the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in his report to the Executive Council of the Organisation at its sixty-eighth session, provided in accordance with paragraph 2 of decision C-16/DEC.11 of 1 December 2011 adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixteenth session, that three possessor States parties, namely, Libya, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, had been unable to fully meet the final extended deadline of 29 April 2012 for the destruction of their chemical weapons stockpiles, and also expressed determination that the destruction of all categories of chemical weapons should be completed in the shortest time possible in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the Verification Annex, and with the full application of the relevant decisions that have been taken;

[271] EC-96/DG.1.

13. *Welcomes* the confirmation by the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons expressed in his report of 5 October 2017,[272] based upon information received from the Russian Federation and independent information received from the inspectors of the Organisation, regarding the completion of the full destruction of chemical weapons declared by the Russian Federation;

14. *Also welcomes* the completed destruction of Libya's remaining category 2 chemical weapons, as reported by the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in his report of 22 December 2017,[273] as well as the completed destruction by Iraq of its entire declared stockpile of chemical weapons remnants, as reported by the Director General in his report of 28 February 2018;[274]

15. *Notes with concern* that, along with the threat of the possible production, acquisition and use of chemical weapons by States, the international community also faces the danger of the production, acquisition and use of chemical weapons by non-State actors, including terrorists, concerns which have highlighted the necessity of achieving universal adherence to the Convention, as well as the high level of readiness of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and stresses that the full and effective implementation of all provisions of the Convention, including those on national implementation (article VII) and assistance and protection (article X), constitutes an important contribution to the efforts of the United Nations in the global fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

16. *Notes* that the effective application of the verification system builds confidence in compliance with the Convention by States parties;

17. *Stresses* the importance of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

18. *Expresses grave concern* that, despite the verified destruction of all 27 chemical weapons production facilities declared by the Syrian Arab Republic, the Technical Secretariat, as recently reported by the Director General in his report of 23 September 2022,[275] cannot fully verify that the Syrian Arab Republic has submitted a declaration that can be considered accurate and complete in accordance with the Convention, Executive Council decisions EC-M-33/DEC.1 and EC-94/DEC.2 and Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), as well as with the conclusion of decision C-SS-4/DEC.3, of the Fourth Review Conference, that the Syrian Arab Republic failed to declare and destroy all of its chemical weapons and chemical weapons production facilities, and underscores the importance of such full verification;

19. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

20. *Welcomes* the progress made in the national implementation of article VII obligations, commends the States parties and the Technical Secretariat for assisting other States parties, on request, with the implementation of the follow-up to the plan of action regarding article VII obligations, urges States parties that have not fulfilled their obligations under article VII to do so without further delay, in accordance with their constitutional processes, and in this context reaffirms that full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of article VII is essential for the realization of the object and purpose of the Convention;

21. *Emphasizes* the continuing relevance and importance of the provisions of article X of the Convention, welcomes the activities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in relation to assistance and protection against chemical weapons, supports further efforts by both States parties and the Technical Secretariat to promote a high level of readiness to respond to chemical weapons threats as articulated in article X, and welcomes the effectiveness and efficiency of the increased focus on making full use of regional and subregional capacities and expertise, including taking advantage of established training centres;

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[272] EC-86/DG.31.

[273] EC-87/DG.6.

[274] EC-87/DG.18.

[275] EC-101/DG.22.

22. *Reaffirms* that the provisions of the Convention shall be implemented in a manner that avoids hampering the economic or technological development of States parties and international cooperation in the field of chemical activities for purposes not prohibited under the Convention, including the international exchange of scientific and technical information, and chemicals and equipment for the production, processing or use of chemicals for purposes not prohibited under the Convention;

23. *Emphasizes* the importance of the provisions of article XI of the Convention relating to the economic and technological development of States parties, recalls that the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of those provisions contributes to universality, and reaffirms the undertaking of the States parties to foster international cooperation for peaceful purposes in the field of chemical activities of the States parties and the importance of that cooperation and its contribution to the promotion of the Convention as a whole;

24. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

25. *Notes* the establishment of an open-ended working group to begin preparations for the Fifth Special Session of the Conference of the States Parties to Review the Operation of the Chemical Weapons Convention, which is to be held from 15 to 19 May 2023, and calls for constructive engagement and support for a tangible outcome of the review process;

26. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons within the framework of the relationship agreement between the United Nations and the Organisation,[276] in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 77/74

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 119 to 49, with 13 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[277]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Central African Republic, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Georgia, Japan, Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sudan

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[276] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2160, No. 1240.

[277] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

77/74. Reducing nuclear danger

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to humankind and to the survival of civilization,

Reaffirming that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

Convinced that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

Convinced also that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Considering that, until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering also that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all humankind,

Emphasizing the need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomalies or other technical malfunctions,

Conscious that limited steps relating to de-alerting and de-targeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful that a diminishing role for nuclear weapons in the security policies of nuclear-weapon States would have a positive impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[278] and by the international community,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons[279] that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Recalling also the call, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[280] to seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction and the resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

1. *Calls for* a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons, including through de-alerting and de-targeting nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to take measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 above;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the measures necessary to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of its resolution 76/27 of 6 December 2021;[281]

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[278] Resolution S-10/2.

[279] A/51/218, annex.

[280] Resolution 55/2.

[281] A/77/123.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts and support initiatives that would contribute to the full implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war,[282] and also to continue to encourage Member States to consider the convening of an international conference, as proposed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Reducing nuclear danger".

RESOLUTION 77/75

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[283]

77/75. Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/28 of 6 December 2021,

Recognizing the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evidenced in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

Deeply concerned by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

Cognizant of the steps taken by States to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction,

Recalling Security Council resolution 2325 (2016) of 15 December 2016 on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction,

Recalling also the entry into force on 7 July 2007 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[284]

Recalling further the adoption, by consensus, of amendments to strengthen the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material[285] by the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 July 2005, and their entry into force on 8 May 2016,

Recalling the support expressed in the Final Document of the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku on 25 and 26 October 2019,[286] for measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction,

Recalling also that the Group of Eight, the European Union, the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and others have taken into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the likely acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and the need for international cooperation in combating it, and that the

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[282] A/56/400, para. 3.

[283] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[284] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

[285] Ibid., vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[286] See A/74/548, annex.

Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism has been launched jointly by the Russian Federation and the United States of America,

Recalling further the holding of the Nuclear Security Summit on 12 and 13 April 2010 in Washington, D.C., on 26 and 27 March 2012 in Seoul, on 24 and 25 March 2014 in The Hague and on 31 March and 1 April 2016 in Washington, D.C.,

Recalling the holding of the high-level meeting on countering nuclear terrorism, with a focus on strengthening the legal framework, in New York on 28 September 2012,

Acknowledging the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,[287]

Taking note of the holding by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the third International Conference on Nuclear Security: Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts, in Vienna in February 2020, the second International Conference on Nuclear Security: Commitments and Actions, in Vienna in December 2016, and the first International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts, in Vienna in July 2013, and the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the Agency at its sixty-sixth regular session,

Recalling the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency on 8 September 2003, and the supplementary Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources, approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 11 September 2017,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on 16 September 2005[288] and the adoption of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy on 8 September 2006,[289]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 76/28,[290]

Mindful of the urgent need for addressing, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this threat to humanity,

Emphasizing that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Appeals* to all Member States to consider early accession to and ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, and encourages States parties to the Convention to review its implementation;

3. *Urges* all Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture;

4. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and to seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures, including national measures, for tackling the global threat posed by the acquisition by terrorists of weapons of mass destruction and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

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[287] See A/59/361.

[288] Resolution 60/1.

[289] Resolution 60/288.

[290] A/77/97.

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction".

RESOLUTION 77/76

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 147 to 6, with 27 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[291]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against: China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic

Abstaining: Algeria, Belarus, Brazil, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Cuba, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Lebanon, Malaysia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Uganda

77/76. Steps to building a common roadmap towards a world without nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that achieving a world without nuclear weapons is a common goal for the international community,

Recalling that it has been 77 years since the use of nuclear weapons in Hiroshima and Nagasaki,

Reaffirming the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[292] (NPT) as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime, the foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament and an important element in facilitating the benefits of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, and also reaffirming its determination to fully and steadily implement the Treaty in all its aspects, including article VI of the Treaty, and to further enhance the universality of the Treaty,

Noting that the NPT States Parties reaffirm the validity of all existing commitments undertaken, including those contained in the decisions and resolution of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[293] the outcome document of the 2000 Review Conference,[294] especially the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, and the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions

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[291] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominica, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Republic of Moldova, Samoa, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Zambia.

[292] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[293] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2).

[294] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II), NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III) and NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part IV)).

adopted by the 2010 Review Conference,[295] and also reaffirm that the full and effective implementation by all States parties of the commitments outlined above is essential to the integrity and credibility of the Treaty,

Expressing regret over the decision of one state to block a consensus outcome at the Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held from 1 to 26 August 2022, while taking positive note of the decision on the next review cycle adopted by consensus including the establishment of the working group on further strengthening the review process, and stressing the importance of moving forward, building upon the discussions held at the recent NPT Review Conference and the draft final document (NPT/CONF.2020/WP.77), which is a useful basis for advancing nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy in a pragmatic manner in the review cycle leading to the 2026 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,

Expressing deep concern at the deteriorated international security environment, including the rapidly deteriorating situation in Ukraine, and that the threat of nuclear weapons use today is higher than at any time since the heights of the Cold War, and noting the concern of non-nuclear weapon States at the rapid quantitative expansion and qualitative improvement of nuclear forces by some nuclear-weapons States, including the development of advanced nuclear weapons and new types of means of their delivery, and the continued role of nuclear weapons in security policies, as well as at the uneven level of transparency surrounding these activities,

Welcoming the extension of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (New START Treaty) and calling upon them to pursue negotiations in good faith on a successor framework to New START before its expiration in 2026, and reaffirming the special responsibility of the nuclear-weapons States to initiate and actively engage in arms control dialogues in good faith on effective measures to prevent nuclear arms racing and help to prepare the way for the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons,

Affirming the need for the nuclear-weapon States to pursue concrete actions for the implementation of the commitments contained in the Joint Statement of the Leaders of the Five Nuclear Weapons States on Preventing Nuclear War and Avoiding Arms Races of 3 January 2022, and noting the commitments of the nuclear-weapon States to continuing structured efforts to exchange views on nuclear concepts, doctrines, policies and risk reduction,

Reaffirming the importance of full adherence by all nuclear-weapon States to all existing obligations and commitments related to security assurances given to non-nuclear-weapon States parties to the Treaty either unilaterally or multilaterally, including the commitments under the Memorandum on Security Assurances in Connection with Ukraine's Accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 1994,

Recognizing the importance of the decisions and the resolution on the Middle East of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the NPT[296] and the Final Documents of the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and reaffirming its support for the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region and in accordance with the 1995 resolution on the Middle East,

Emphasizing the importance for all States of taking further practical steps and effective measures towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons, in a way that promotes international stability, peace and security, and based on the principle of undiminished and increased security for all,

Recognizing that nuclear risk will persist as long as nuclear weapons exist, reaffirming that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only way to eliminate all risks associated with these weapons, and reaffirming also that risk reduction is neither a substitute nor a prerequisite for nuclear disarmament and that efforts in this area should contribute to forward movement in and complement the implementation of Article VI obligations and related nuclear disarmament commitments,

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[295] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

[296] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex.

Reiterating deep concern at the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of the use of nuclear weapons and reaffirming that this awareness ought to continue to underpin our approaches and efforts towards nuclear disarmament, and welcoming the visits of leaders, youth and others to Hiroshima and Nagasaki in this regard,

Acknowledging that the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons was adopted on 7 July 2017, and noting that it was opened to signature by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 20 September 2017, entered into force on 22 January 2021 and held its first Meeting of States Parties on 21–23 June 2022,

Reaffirming that further strengthening of the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation is essential to international peace and security, and also reaffirming the inalienable right of all States parties to the NPT to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with the Treaty, as well as the importance of nuclear safeguards, safety and security for fullest possible use and exchange of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes and their contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reaffirming the importance to ensure the equal, full and effective participation and leadership of both women and men and to further integrate a gender perspective in all aspects of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation decision-making processes,

Noting that further work is required to ensure the irreversibility of nuclear disarmament as well as to improve predictability and enhance accountability, and welcoming transparency and reporting measures by some nuclear-weapon States on nuclear policy, doctrine, and budgeting, including public sharing of information on modernization plans in this regard,

1. *Urges* all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to make every effort to ensure that nuclear weapons are never used again, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, and to refrain from any inflammatory rhetoric concerning the use of nuclear weapons, based on the recognition that all States have a shared interest in averting a nuclear war,

2. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to honor and respect all existing security assurances undertaken by them and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States Parties to the NPT consistent with their respective national statements,

3. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, to apply the principles of irreversibility, verifiability and transparency in relation to the implementation of their NPT obligations; to immediately pursue enhanced transparency measures by providing information in line with Action 21 of the 2010 Action Plan, related to concrete data on their nuclear arsenals and capabilities, without prejudice to their national security, as well as national measures related to nuclear disarmament including their nuclear policies, doctrines and nuclear risk reduction measures, including status of production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices; and to provide frequent and detailed reporting on the implementation of the NPT and opportunities for discussion of these reports, taking into account Actions 20 and 21 of the 2010 Action Plan and paragraph 187 (35) of NPT/CONF.2020/WP.77 as a useful reference,

4. *Emphasizes* that maintaining the overall decreasing trend of the global stockpile of nuclear weapons is vital in getting closer to a world free of nuclear weapons and calls upon nuclear-weapons States to undertake further efforts to reduce and ultimately eliminate all types of nuclear weapons, deployed and non-deployed, regardless of their location, including through unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures,

5. *Urges* all States, that have yet to sign and/or ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[297] (CTBT) to do so in all expediency, particularly the remaining eight States listed in its Annex 2, and pending the entry into force of the CTBT, to refrain from nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, and any other action that would defeat the object and purpose of that Treaty, and to declare or maintain existing moratoriums on nuclear weapon test explosions, as well as to assist the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization in its work in preparing for the entry into force of the Treaty,

6. *Calls on* the Conference on Disarmament to immediately commence and bring to an early conclusion, negotiations on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the

[297] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

production of fissile material for use in nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices in accordance with CD/1299 and the mandate contained therein, as well as on the nuclear-weapons States to declare or maintain voluntary moratoriums on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices,

7. *Calls on* all States, in particular the nuclear-weapon States to commit to further identifying, exploring and implementing effective risk reduction measures necessary to mitigate risks relating to nuclear weapons use that arise from miscalculation, misperception, miscommunication or accident, inter alia, to intensify dialogue among and between the nuclear-weapon States and with the non-nuclear weapons States; to develop and make every effort to implement effective crisis prevention and management arrangements, mechanisms and tools; to maintain the practice of not targeting each other or any other state with nuclear weapons and keep them at the lowest possible alert levels,

8. *Calls on* all States to strengthen support for initiatives to develop multilateral disarmament verification and capacity-building in support of nuclear disarmament and as an effective step towards achieving the objectives of Article VI of the NPT, and to further conceptual and practical work on nuclear disarmament verification, taking into account the importance of partnerships between nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States on this matter and encourage broad participation by all States,

9. *Underscores* the importance of complying with non-proliferation obligations and addressing all non-compliance matters in order to uphold the integrity of the NPT and the authority of the safeguards system,

10. *Reaffirms* the commitment to achieving the complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement of all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes, as well as all other existing weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programs, of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions, and the obligation of all Member States to fully implement all relevant Security Council resolutions, notes with serious concern the DPRK's announcement of 9 September 2022 of an updated law on nuclear policy lowering the threshold for the use of nuclear weapons, and urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to return at an early date to full compliance with the NPT and International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

11. *Calls on* all States to facilitate efforts on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation education, which is a useful and effective means to advance goals of the NPT in support of achieving a world without nuclear weapons, inter alia, efforts in which the young generation can actively engage, including through dialogue platforms, mentoring, internships, fellowships, scholarships, model events and youth group activities, as well as to raise awareness of the realities of the use of nuclear weapons, including through, among others, visits by leaders, youth and others to and interactions with communities and people, including the hibakusha (those who have suffered the use of nuclear weapons) who pass on their experiences to the future generations, and welcomes concrete measures in this regard, including the Young Professionals Network of P5 academics, "The Youth4Disarmament Initiative", "Disarmament education: resources for learning" and the announcement of "Youth Leader Fund for a world without nuclear weapons",

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Steps to building a common roadmap towards a world without nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 77/77

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 180 to none, with 2 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[298]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador,

[298] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Zambia.

Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic

77/77. Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/46 of 5 December 2007, 65/74 of 8 December 2010, 67/51 of 3 December 2012, 69/50 of 2 December 2014, 71/66 of 5 December 2016 73/66 of 5 December 2018 and 75/70 of 7 December 2020,

Recognizing the essential contribution of radioactive sources to social and economic development, and the benefits drawn from their use for all States,

Recognizing also the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evident in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

Noting with satisfaction the continued international efforts to strengthen further the security of radioactive sources worldwide,

Mindful of the sovereign rights and the responsibilities of every Member State, in accordance with their national legal frameworks and international obligations, to maintain effective nuclear safety and security, asserting that responsibility for nuclear security within a State rests entirely with that State, and noting the important contribution of international cooperation in supporting the efforts of States to fulfil their responsibilities,

Deeply concerned by the threat of terrorism and the risk that terrorists may acquire, traffic in or use radioactive sources in radiological dispersion devices,

Deeply concerned also by the potential threat to human health and the environment that would result from the use of such devices by terrorists,

Noting with concern the occurrence of nuclear and radioactive materials that are outside of regulatory control or being trafficked,

Noting with deep concern the consequences of armed conflicts on the safety and security of radioactive sources that could lead to a loss or a theft of these sources and increase the risk of trafficking of such sources,

Recalling the importance of international conventions aimed at preventing and suppressing such a risk, in particular the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, adopted on 13 April 2005,[299] and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted on 26 October 1979,[300] as well as its Amendment, adopted on 8 July 2005,[301] which entered into force on 8 May 2016,

Noting that actions of the international community to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and prevent access by non-State actors to weapons of mass destruction and related material, notably Security Council resolutions 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004, 1977 (2011) of 20 April 2011 and 2325 (2016) of 15 December 2016, constitute contributions to the prevention of acts of terrorism using such materials,

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[299] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

[300] Ibid., vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[301] See International Atomic Energy Agency, document GOV/INF/2005/10-GC(49)/INF/6, attachment.

Taking note of resolutions GC(66)/RES/6 and GC(66)/RES/7, adopted on 30 September 2022 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its sixty-sixth regular session, which address measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear and radiation safety and measures to enhance nuclear security,

Stressing the importance of the role of the International Atomic Energy Agency in promoting and reinforcing the safety and security of radioactive sources, in particular by establishing technical guidance and supporting States in the improvement of national legal and regulatory infrastructure, and in strengthening coordination and complementarities among various nuclear or radiological security activities,

Noting the organization by the International Atomic Energy Agency of the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Enhancing Global Efforts, held in Vienna from 1 to 5 July 2013, the International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources: Maintaining the Continuous Global Control of Sources throughout their Life Cycle, held in Abu Dhabi from 27 to 31 October 2013, the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Commitments and Actions, held in Vienna from 5 to 9 December 2016, the International Conference on the Security of Radioactive Material: The Way Forward for Prevention and Detection, held in Vienna from 3 to 7 December 2018, and the International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources – Accomplishments and Future Endeavours, held in Vienna from 20 to 24 June 2022, welcoming the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration at the International Conference on Nuclear Security: Sustaining and Strengthening Efforts, held in Vienna from 10 to 14 February 2020, and recalling the holding of the first Conference of the Parties to the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, in Vienna from 28 March to 1 April 2022, and the adoption of the Outcome Document,

Noting also the utility of the Incident and Trafficking Database as a voluntary mechanism for the international exchange of information on incidents and illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radioactive material, encouraging the International Atomic Energy Agency to further facilitate, including through designated points of contact, the timely exchange of information, including through secured electronic access to information contained in the Database, and encouraging all States to join and participate actively in the Database programme in support of their national efforts to prevent, detect and respond to radioactive and nuclear materials that may have fallen out of regulatory control,

Noting further the importance of the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[302] with respect to its provisions on the safety of disused sealed sources,

Highlighting the importance of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, of its supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources and of its supplementary Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources as valuable instruments for enhancing the safety and security of radioactive sources, noting that 141 States members of the International Atomic Energy Agency have made a political commitment to implement the provisions of the Code, 124 States have made a similar commitment to the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources and 45 member States have made a similar commitment to the supplementary Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources, while recognizing that they are not legally binding,

Noting that a number of States have not yet become parties to the pertinent international instruments,

Taking note of the Nuclear Security Plan 2022–2025 of the International Atomic Energy Agency,[303] and encouraging Member States to make voluntary contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency Nuclear Security Fund,

Welcoming the fact that Member States have taken multilateral actions to address the security of radioactive sources, as reflected in General Assembly resolution 76/9 of 24 November 2021,

Noting the various international efforts and partnerships to enhance nuclear and radiological security, encouraging further efforts to secure radioactive sources, and noting in this respect guidance and recommendations of the International Atomic Energy Agency with regard to safe and secure management of radioactive sources,

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[302] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2153, No. 37605.

[303] International Atomic Energy Agency, document GC(65)/24.

Taking note of the findings of the International Conference on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources of 2022, which, inter alia, call for further assessment of the merits of developing an international convention on the safety and security of radioactive sources so that Member States can make the best-informed decisions on the matter,

Noting that the Radiological and Nuclear Terrorism Prevention Unit of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) works with nations to strengthen capabilities to counter radioactive source smuggling and prevent terrorists from acquiring such materials, and that INTERPOL Operation Fail Safe promotes the sharing of sensitive law enforcement information on known nuclear smugglers,

Welcoming the ongoing individual and collective efforts of Member States to take into account in their deliberations the dangers posed by the lack or insufficiency of control over radioactive sources, and recognizing the need for States to take more effective measures to strengthen those controls in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law,

Mindful of the urgent need to address, within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation, this rising concern for international security,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to support international efforts to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive sources and, if necessary, suppress such acts, in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with international law;

2. *Encourages* all Member States that have not yet done so to become party to the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism as soon as possible, in accordance with their legal and constitutional processes;

3. *Invites* Member States, in coordination with the International Atomic Energy Agency and in accordance with its statute, to consider the merits of conducting an evaluation of the existing international framework applicable to the security of radioactive sources and, if necessary, to explore possible options for its potential strengthening;

4. *Urges* Member States to take and strengthen national measures and capabilities, as appropriate, to prevent the acquisition and use by terrorists of radioactive sources as well as terrorist attacks on nuclear plants and facilities which would result in radioactive releases, and, if necessary, to suppress such acts, in particular by taking effective measures to account for, control, secure and physically protect such facilities, materials and sources in accordance with their national legal authorities and legislation and consistent with their international obligations;

5. *Encourages* Member States to enhance their national capacities with appropriate means of detection and related architecture or systems, including through international cooperation and assistance in conformity with international law and regulations, with a view to preventing, detecting and responding to illicit trafficking in radioactive sources;

6. *Invites* Member States, in particular those producing and distributing radioactive sources, to support and endorse the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance the safety and security of radioactive sources, as described in General Conference resolutions GC(66)/RES/6 and GC(66)/RES/7 and to enhance the security of radioactive sources, as described in the Nuclear Security Plan 2022–2025;

7. *Urges* all States to work towards following the guidance contained in the non-legally binding International Atomic Energy Agency Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, including, as appropriate, the supplementary Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources and the supplementary Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources, and encourages Member States to notify the Director General of the Agency of their intention to do so pursuant to General Conference resolutions GC(66)/RES/6 and GC(66)/RES/7;

8. *Encourages* Member States to work with the International Atomic Energy Agency to enhance the non-legally binding international framework for the security of radioactive sources, especially on the safe and secure management of disused radioactive sources, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the Agency, in particular resolutions GC(66)/RES/6 and GC(66)/RES/7;

9. *Recognizes* the value of information exchange on national approaches to controlling radioactive sources, and takes note of the endorsement by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency of a proposal for a formalized process for a voluntary periodic exchange on information and lessons learned and for the evaluation

of progress made by States towards implementing the provisions of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources;

10. *Welcomes* the endorsement of the Guidance on the Management of Disused Radioactive Sources by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in its resolution GC(61)/RES/8 adopted on 21 September 2017 at its sixty-first session;

11. *Encourages* Member States to participate, on a voluntary basis, in the Incident and Trafficking Database programme of the International Atomic Energy Agency;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Member States, including through international cooperation under the auspices of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to search for, locate, recover and secure lost or orphaned radioactive sources within their State jurisdiction or territory, encourages continued efforts in this way, and also encourages cooperation among and between Member States and through relevant international and, where appropriate, regional organizations aimed at strengthening national capacities in this regard;

13. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with their national laws, policies and priorities, to provide support for scientific research to develop technically and economically appropriate technologies with the capability to further improve the security of radioactive sources or reduce the risk of acquisition by terrorists and of malicious use of radioactive sources, including by, on a voluntary basis and when technically feasible and economically realistic, developing technologies that do not rely on high activity radioactive sources and developing exchanges on alternative technologies, without unduly hindering the beneficial uses of radioactive sources;

14. *Invites* all Member States to participate, on a voluntary basis, in the annual meeting of the ad hoc working group of stakeholder States involved with alternative technologies to high activity radioactive sources;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources".

RESOLUTION 77/78

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 173 to 1, with 9 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[304]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Ukraine

Abstaining: Bulgaria, Estonia, Georgia, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania

[304] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Belarus, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Eritrea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

77/78. Strengthening and developing the system of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions,

Recognizing the common interest of all humankind in strengthening and developing the system of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements,

Stressing the vital importance of efforts in arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation for providing international peace and strengthening global security,

Welcoming the extension for five years of the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms,

Stressing the paramount importance of full and strict implementation, strengthening and development of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements providing enhanced security to individual nations and the international community,

Underlining that any weakening of confidence in and compliance with such treaties and agreements diminishes their contribution to global or regional stability and undermines the credibility and effectiveness of the international legal system and regime applicable to arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation,

Recognizing in this context that full implementation by Member States of existing treaties and agreements to which they are parties and resolving implementation concerns effectively by means consistent with such treaties and agreements and international law facilitate the conclusion of additional arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements, and thereby contribute to better relations among States and the strengthening of the existing system of such treaties and agreements, as well as international peace and security,

Believing that supporting and developing the system of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation through the strengthening of appropriate treaties and agreements and their regimes is a matter of interest and concern to all members of the international community, and noting the role that the United Nations has played and should continue to play in that regard,

Stressing the importance of appropriate and sustainable financial support for the effectiveness and efficiency of the relevant international arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation instruments and proper functioning of their regimes,

Emphasizing the importance of appropriate technical assistance and capacity-building efforts for the implementation of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements by Member States,

Concerned that any actions that undermine the existing system of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements affect the interests of the international community,

Mindful that it is the responsibility and obligation of all Member States to contribute to the process of easing international tension and to strengthening international peace and security and, in this connection, to refrain from steps that negatively affect the security environment and to make efforts to advance along the path of nuclear disarmament, as well as general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

1. *Urges* all States parties to arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements to implement all provisions of such treaties and agreements in their entirety;

2. *Calls for* continued efforts to strengthen the system of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements and to preserve its integrity and validity for maintaining global stability and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to give serious consideration to the negative implications of undermining arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements and their regimes for international security and stability, as well as for progress in the field of disarmament;

4. *Urges* all Member States to support efforts aimed at the resolution of implementation issues by means consistent with arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements and international law, with

a view to encouraging strict observance by all States parties of the provisions of such treaties and agreements, maintaining or restoring the integrity of such treaties and agreements and strengthening and developing their regimes;

5. *Considers* that any actions that undermine the system of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements also undermine global stability and international peace and security;

6. *Supports* efforts by the international community, in the light of emerging developments, towards safeguarding the integrity of the existing arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements, which is in the strongest interest of humankind;

7. *Welcomes* the role that the United Nations has played and continues to play in fostering negotiations on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements;

8. *Expresses the need* to maintain the effectiveness and efficiency as well as the consensus-based nature of the relevant multilateral instruments in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance that may be necessary in protecting the integrity of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements, and in strengthening the system of such treaties and agreements;

10. *Encourages* States in a position to do so to provide, upon request, technical assistance and capacity-building in support of national implementation of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements by Member States;

11. *Encourages* efforts by all States parties to elaborate additional cooperative measures, as appropriate, that can increase confidence in existing arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements and facilitate the conclusion of additional treaties and agreements of that kind;

12. *Notes* the importance of effective verification provisions for arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Strengthening and developing the system of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements".

RESOLUTION 77/79

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 144 to 1, with 37 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[305]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Russian Federation

Abstaining: Argentina, Bahrain, Belarus, Brazil, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Cyprus, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kuwait, Latvia, Morocco, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Qatar,

[305] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, France, Germany, Guyana, Iraq, Lebanon, Malawi, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

77/79. Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 63/71 of 2 December 2008 on the Convention on Cluster Munitions and 70/54 of 7 December 2015, 71/45 of 5 December 2016, 72/54 of 4 December 2017, 73/54 of 5 December 2018, 74/62 of 12 December 2019, 75/62 of 7 December 2020 and 76/47 of 6 December 2021 on the implementation of the Convention,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end for all time to the suffering and casualties caused by cluster munitions at the time of their use, when they fail to function as intended or when they are abandoned,

Deploring the recent cases of cluster munitions use and related civilian casualties, and calling upon those who continue to use cluster munitions to cease any such activity immediately,

Conscious that cluster munition remnants kill or maim civilians, including women and children, obstruct economic and social development, including through the loss of livelihood, impede post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction, delay or prevent the return of refugees and internally displaced persons, can have a negative impact on national and international peacebuilding and humanitarian assistance efforts, and have other severe consequences for many years after use,

Concerned about the dangers presented by the large national stockpiles of cluster munitions retained for operational use, and determined to ensure their rapid destruction,

Recognizing the impact of cluster munitions on women, men, girls and boys and the importance of relevant States providing adequate, gender- and age-sensitive assistance to victims of cluster munitions,

Believing it necessary to contribute effectively in an efficient, coordinated manner to resolving the challenge of removing cluster munition remnants located throughout the world, and to ensure their destruction,

Mindful of the need to adequately coordinate efforts undertaken in various forums, including through the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[306] to address the rights and needs of victims of various types of weapons, and resolved to avoid discrimination among victims of various types of weapons,

Reaffirming that in cases not covered by the Convention on Cluster Munitions[307] or by other international agreements, civilians and combatants remain under the protection and authority of the principles of international law, derived from established custom, from the principles of humanity and from the dictates of public conscience,

Welcoming the steps taken nationally, regionally and globally in recent years aimed at prohibiting, restricting or suspending the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of cluster munitions, and welcoming also in this regard that, since 2014, all Central American States have joined the Convention, thus fulfilling their aspiration to become the first cluster munitions-free region in the world,

Stressing the role of public conscience in furthering the principles of humanity, as evidenced by the global call for an end to civilian suffering caused by cluster munitions, and recognizing the efforts to that end undertaken by the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition and numerous other non-governmental organizations around the world,

Noting that a total of 123 States have joined the Convention, 110 as States parties and 13 as signatories,

Emphasizing the need to make further efforts in accelerating the universalization process,

Noting the outcome of the second Review Conference of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, held in Geneva from 25 to 27 November 2020 and on 20 and 21 September 2021, and in particular the adoption of

[306] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[307] Ibid., vol. 2688, No. 47713.

the Lausanne Declaration entitled "Protecting lives, empowering victims, enabling development" and the Lausanne Action Plan 2021–2026[308] to support the full and effective implementation of the Convention,

Welcoming the dialogue undertaken by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which presided over the tenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, with States not parties to the Convention, including military-to-military dialogue, in support of universal adherence to the Convention, and recognizing the efforts undertaken to explore innovative finance solutions to assist affected countries in the implementation of their obligations under the Convention,

Recognizing the importance of full involvement and equal opportunities for the meaningful participation of women and men in disarmament processes, policy and programming decisions related to the Convention,

1. *Urges* all States not parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions to ratify or accede to it as soon as possible, and all States parties that are in a position to do so to promote adherence to the Convention through bilateral, subregional and multilateral contacts, outreach and other means;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention, including through the implementation of the Lausanne Action Plan, as appropriate;

3. *Expresses grave concern* regarding the number of allegations, reports or documented evidence of the use of cluster munitions in different parts of the world, related civilian casualties and other consequences that impede the achievement of sustainable development;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information that could make the clearance and destruction of cluster munition remnants and related activities more effective;

6. *Reiterates* the invitation to States not parties to participate in a continued dialogue on issues relevant to the Convention in order to enhance its humanitarian impact and to promote its universalization, as well as to engage in a military-to-military dialogue in order to address specific security issues related to cluster munitions;

7. *Reiterates its invitation and encouragement* to all States parties, interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Cluster Munition Coalition and other relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the upcoming formal meetings under the Convention;

8. *Invites and encourages* all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, to be held in Geneva from 11 to 14 September 2023, and to participate in the future programme of meetings of the States parties to the Convention;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to convene the Meetings of States Parties to the Convention and to continue to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be necessary to fulfil the tasks entrusted to him under the Convention and in the relevant decisions of the Meetings of States Parties and the second Review Conference;

10. *Calls upon* States parties and participating States to address issues arising from outstanding dues, including options to ensure sustainable financing for all formal meetings and prompt payment of respective shares of the estimated costs;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions".

[308] CCM/CONF/2021/6, annexes I and II.

RESOLUTION 77/80

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[309]

77/80. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/32 of 6 December 2021,

Deeply concerned by the magnitude of human casualty and suffering, especially among children, caused by the illicit proliferation and use of small arms and light weapons,

Concerned by the negative impact that the illicit proliferation and use of those weapons continue to have on the efforts of States in the Sahelo-Saharan subregion in the areas of poverty eradication, sustainable development and the maintenance of peace, security and stability,

Bearing in mind the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted in Bamako on 1 December 2000,[310]

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all",[311] in which he emphasized that States must strive just as hard to eliminate the threat of small arms and light weapons as they do to eliminate the threat of weapons of mass destruction,

Recalling also the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted on 8 December 2005,[312]

Recalling further the expression of support in the 2005 World Summit Outcome for the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[313]

Recalling the adoption, on 14 June 2006 in Abuja at the thirtieth ordinary summit of the Economic Community of West African States, of the Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials, in replacement of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa,

Recalling also the entry into force of the Convention on 29 September 2009,

Recalling further the decision taken by the Economic Community to establish the Small Arms Unit, responsible for advocating appropriate policies and developing and implementing programmes, as well as the establishment of the Economic Community's Small Arms Control Programme, launched on 6 June 2006 in Bamako, in replacement of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development,

Taking note of the latest report of the Secretary-General on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them,[314]

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[309] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of West African States), Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Türkiye, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia.

[310] A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

[311] A/59/2005.

[312] See decision 60/519 and A/60/88 and A/60/88/Corr.2, annex.

[313] Resolution 60/1, para. 93.

[314] A/77/77.

Recalling, in that regard, the decision of the European Union to significantly support the Economic Community in its efforts to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons,

Recognizing the important role that civil society organizations play, by raising public awareness, in efforts to curb the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons,

Recalling the report of the Seventh Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 26 to 30 July 2021,[315]

Recalling also the report of the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 18 to 29 June 2018,[316]

Welcoming the inclusion of small arms and light weapons in the scope of the Arms Trade Treaty,[317] as well as the inclusion of international assistance in its provisions,

1. *Commends* the United Nations and international, regional and other organizations for their assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and light weapons and collecting them in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the African Union;

3. *Encourages* the international community to support the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials;

4. *Encourages* the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion to facilitate the effective functioning of national commissions to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons, and in that regard invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible;

5. *Encourages* the collaboration of civil society organizations and associations in the efforts of the national commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[318]

6. *Encourages* cooperation among State organs, international organizations and civil society in support of programmes and projects aimed at combating the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to provide technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to take action to help to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General and those States and organizations that are in a position to do so to continue to provide assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them".

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[315] A/CONF.192/BMS/2021/1.

[316] A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3.

[317] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3013, No. 52373.

[318] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

RESOLUTION 77/81

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/386, para. 21)[319]

77/81. United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[320]

Recalling its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[321] to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[322] including its decision to continue the programme,

Noting that the programme continues to contribute significantly to developing greater awareness of the importance and benefits of disarmament and a better understanding of the concerns of the international community in the field of disarmament and security, as well as to enhancing the knowledge and skills of fellows, allowing them to participate more effectively in efforts in the field of disarmament at all levels,

Recognizing the need for Member States to take into account gender equality when nominating candidates to the programme,

Recalling all the resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 50/71 A of 12 December 1995, resolution 73/73 of 5 December 2018 and resolution 75/74 of 7 December 2020,

Believing that the forms of assistance available under the programme to Member States, in particular to developing countries, will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly and the guidelines approved by the Assembly in its resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;[323]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that the programme has trained 1,076 officials from 170 Member States throughout its more than 44 years of existence, many of whom hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own Governments;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to all Member States and organizations that have consistently supported the programme throughout the years, thereby contributing to its success, in particular to the European Union and to the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Japan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland for continuing extensive and highly educative study visits for the participants in the programme during 2021 and 2022;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in

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[319] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, China, Comoros, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Zimbabwe.

[320] A/77/117.

[321] Resolution S-10/2.

[322] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Annexes*, agenda items 9–13, document A/S-12/32.

[323] A/33/305.

Europe and the Vienna Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for organizing specific study programmes in the field of disarmament in their respective areas of competence, thereby contributing to the objectives of the programme;

5. *Encourages* Member States to leverage the knowledge of the United Nations disarmament fellows as a useful resource on matters related to disarmament and international security;

6. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement annually the programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

RESOLUTION 77/82

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 116 to 50, with 15 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/386, para. 21)[324]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Guyana, Japan, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Serbia, Tajikistan, Thailand

77/82. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of humankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons,[325]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps have been taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and that further steps – in all relevant formats – on nuclear arms control and

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[324] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Sri Lanka, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[325] A/51/218, annex.

disarmament can contribute to the improvement of the international climate and the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[326] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and which would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Recognizing that a legally binding prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons is not contrary to but in fact contributes to international efforts for the achievement and maintenance of a world free of nuclear weapons,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2022 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 76/56 of 6 December 2021,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

RESOLUTION 77/83

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/386, para. 21)[327]

77/83. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations, in which it is stipulated that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its subsequent resolutions on the Regional Centre, the most recent of which is resolution 76/57 of 6 December 2021,

Recalling further its resolution 73/46 of 5 December 2018, in which it recognized the role of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control,

Reaffirming the role of the Regional Centre in promoting disarmament, peace and security at the regional level,

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[326] Resolution S-10/2.

[327] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Italy, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States) and Portugal.

Welcoming the continuing and deepening cooperation between the Regional Centre, the African Union and African subregional organizations in the context of the adoption of Agenda 2063 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, and in particular the objective of silencing the guns in Africa,

Welcoming also the work of the Regional Centre in support of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,[328] in particular Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and target 16.4, which addresses the reduction of illicit arms flows,

Recalling the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union at its eighth ordinary session, held in Khartoum from 16 to 21 January 2006,[329] in which the Council called upon member States to make voluntary contributions to the Regional Centre to maintain its operations,

Recalling also the call by the Secretary-General for continued financial and in-kind support from Member States, which would enable the Regional Centre to discharge its mandate in full and to respond more effectively to requests for assistance from African States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[330]

2. *Commends* the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa for its sustained support to Member States in implementing disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation activities through seminars and conferences, capacity-building and training, policy and technical expertise, and information and advocacy at the regional and national levels;

3. *Welcomes* the continental dimension of the activities of the Regional Centre in response to the evolving needs of African Member States and the region's new and emerging challenges in the areas of disarmament, peace and security, including maritime security;

4. *Recalls* the undertaking by the Regional Centre to deepen its partnership with the African Union Commission in the context of the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, signed on 19 April 2017, as well as with African subregional organizations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to facilitate close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the areas of disarmament, peace and security;

5. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Regional Centre to continental disarmament, peace and security, in particular its contribution to the implementation of Agenda 2063 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the objective of silencing the guns in Africa and its master road map of practical steps to silence the guns in Africa, as well as its assistance to the African Commission on Nuclear Energy in its implementation of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba);[331]

6. *Also welcomes* efforts by the Regional Centre to promote the role and representation of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control activities;

7. *Calls upon* Member States and other bilateral and multilateral stakeholders to further enable the Regional Centre to provide adequate assistance to African Member States on arms control and disarmament from a human security perspective, notably in the following areas of arms control: prevention of violent extremism, youth and peace and security, and women and peace and security;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the tangible achievements of the Regional Centre and the impact of the assistance that it provides to African States to control small arms and light weapons through capacity-building for national commissions on small arms and light weapons, defence and security forces, and United Nations peacekeeping mission personnel, as well as the support that the Centre provided to States in preventing the diversion of such weapons, in particular to non-State armed groups and terrorist groups,[332] and also notes with appreciation the assistance provided by the Centre in the implementation of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light

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[328] See resolution 70/1.

[329] A/60/693, annex II, decision EX.CL/Dec.263 (VIII).

[330] A/77/121.

[331] A/50/426, annex.

[332] Security Council resolution 2370 (2017).

Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention),[333] which entered into force on 8 March 2017, and its substantive support to the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, in the implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Convention on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and Other Related Materials and on security sector reform initiatives, and to East Africa on programmes to control brokering of small arms and light weapons, including the additional assistance provided by the Centre to African Member States in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) of 28 April 2004;

9. *Commends* the Regional Centre for the support and assistance that it provided to African States, upon request, on the Arms Trade Treaty,[334] including through the organization of subregional and regional seminars and workshops;

10. *Urges* all States, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to enable the Regional Centre to carry out its programmes and activities and meet the needs of African States;

11. *Urges*, in particular, States members of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, in conformity with the decision taken by the Executive Council of the African Union in Khartoum in January 2006;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Regional Centre with the support necessary for greater achievements and results;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

RESOLUTION 77/84

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/386, para. 21)[335]

77/84. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolution 76/58 of 6 December 2021 and all previous resolutions on the Regional Centre,

Recognizing that the Regional Centre has continued to provide substantive support for the implementation of regional, subregional and national initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development, and emphasizing the role of the Centre in providing support for the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[336]

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[333] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

[334] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3013, No. 52373.

[335] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Austria, and Peru (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

[336] Resolution 70/1.

Reaffirming the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States of the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[337] and expressing its appreciation for the important assistance provided, upon request, by the Regional Centre to countries in the region, including through capacity-building and technical assistance activities for the implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control instruments,

Welcoming the support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control instruments,

Emphasizing the need for the Regional Centre to further develop and strengthen its activities and programmes in a comprehensive and balanced manner, in accordance with its mandate and in line with the requests for assistance by Member States,

Welcoming the ongoing support provided by the Regional Centre to Member States in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[338]

Welcoming also the assistance provided by the Regional Centre to States, upon request, in the management and securing of national weapons stockpiles and in the identification and destruction of surplus, obsolete or seized weapons and ammunition, as declared by competent national authorities, in particular the implementation of the Roadmap for Implementing the Caribbean Priority Actions on the Illicit Proliferation of Firearms and Ammunition across the Caribbean in a Sustainable Manner by 2030 (Caribbean Firearms Roadmap),

Welcoming further the initiative of the Regional Centre to continue to conduct activities in line with efforts to promote the equitable representation of women and the engagement of youth in all decision-making and implementation processes with regard to matters related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, as encouraged in its resolutions 65/69 of 8 December 2010 and 74/64 of 12 December 2019,

Recalling the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on the relationship between disarmament and development,[339] referred to in General Assembly resolution 59/78 of 3 December 2004, which is of utmost interest with regard to the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting the issue in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament,

Noting that security, disarmament and development issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Recognizing the cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean on strengthening the nuclear-weapon-free zone established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[340] as well as its efforts in promoting peace and disarmament education, especially among youth,

Bearing in mind the important role of the Regional Centre in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Recognizing the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional and subregional levels to strengthen peace, disarmament, stability, security and development among its Member States;

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[337] A/77/120.

[338] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[339] See A/59/119.

[340] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

2. *Welcomes* the activities carried out in the past year by the Regional Centre, and requests the Centre to continue to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region for the implementation of the mandate of the Centre in the areas of peace, disarmament and development and for the promotion of, inter alia, the prevention, combating and eradication of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, ammunition and explosives, the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the reduction and prevention of armed violence at the regional and subregional levels;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support provided by Member States, as well as for the financial contributions made by Member States and international governmental and non-governmental organizations, to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof, and encourages them to continue to make and to increase voluntary contributions;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its programme of activities and maximizing the potential of the Centre to meet the current challenges facing the international community with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the areas of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional and subregional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, in the relationship between disarmament and development, including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,[341] in the promotion of the participation of women and youth in this field and in strengthening voluntary confidence-building measures among the countries of the region;

6. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to further develop activities in all countries of the region in the important areas of peace, disarmament and development and to provide, upon request and in accordance with its mandate, support to Member States of the region in the national implementation of relevant instruments, inter alia, the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and the Arms Trade Treaty,[342] as well as in the implementation of the 1540 programme on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

RESOLUTION 77/85

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/386, para. 21)[343]

77/85. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu,

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[341] See resolution 70/1.

[342] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3013, No. 52373.

[343] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

Recalling also the mandate of the Regional Centre to provide, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[344] and expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its important work in promoting dialogue and confidence-building measures through the organization of meetings, conferences and workshops in the region, including national and subregional workshops on awareness-raising and promoting the universalization of the Hague Code of Conduct against the Proliferation of Ballistic Missiles;[345] capacity-building training for States of Asia and the Pacific on strengthening the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[346] a capacity-building project for States of Asia and the Pacific on gun violence and illicit small arms trafficking from a gender perspective; capacity-building and awareness-raising in support of the establishment and maintenance of gun-free zones in Asia and the Pacific; and the twentieth United Nations-Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues,

Expressing appreciation for the timely execution by Nepal of its host country commitments for the physical operation of the Regional Centre,

Welcoming the work by the Regional Centre in support of the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 5 and 16,[347] in particular target 5.2 to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls, target 5.5 to ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership and target 16.4 to significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows,

Welcoming also the efforts by the Regional Centre to promote the role and representation of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control activities,

Welcoming further the youth-focused outreach activities undertaken by the Regional Centre,

1. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the activities carried out over the past year by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, and invites all States of the region to continue to support the activities of the Regional Centre, including by continuing to take part in them, where possible, and by proposing items for inclusion in the programme of activities of the Centre, in order to contribute to the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament;

2. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Nepal for its cooperation and financial support, which has enabled the Regional Centre to operate from Kathmandu;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for providing the necessary support with a view to ensuring the smooth operation of the Regional Centre and to enabling the Centre to function effectively;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

5. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the role of the Regional Centre in the promotion of activities of the United Nations at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability and security among its Member States;

6. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogues;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

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[344] A/77/118.

[345] A/57/724, enclosure.

[346] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[347] See resolution 70/1.

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

RESOLUTION 77/86

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/386, para. 21)[348]

77/86. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, in particular its resolution 76/60 of 6 December 2021,

Recalling also the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the Central Africa subregion,

Recalling that the purpose of the Standing Advisory Committee is to conduct reconstruction and confidence-building activities in Central Africa among its member States, including through confidence-building and arms limitation measures,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken on the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Reaffirming the importance and relevance of the Standing Advisory Committee as an instrument of preventive diplomacy in the subregional architecture for the promotion of peace and security in Central Africa,

Bearing in mind the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee decided upon at the forty-fourth ministerial meeting of the Committee, held in Yaoundé from 29 May to 2 June 2017, with a view to enhancing its contribution to the achievement of the objectives of peace, security and development in Central Africa,

Taking note of the conclusions of the scientific symposium, held to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the Standing Advisory Committee, on its substantial contribution in the service of preventive diplomacy, as well as the recommendations and the road map for their implementation,

Recalling the entry into force of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention) on 8 March 2017[349] and the third Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty, held in Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2017,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries,

Reaffirming the Libreville Declaration on the Adoption and Implementation of the Regional Strategy and Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism and the Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons in Central Africa, adopted

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[348] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Cameroon (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of Central African States).

[349] See A/65/517-S/2010/534, annex.

by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee on 26 November 2015 at their forty-first ministerial meeting, held in Libreville from 23 to 27 November 2015,[350]

Recalling the communiqués of the forty-eighth[351] and forty-ninth ministerial meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee, held from 27 to 31 May and from 25 to 29 November 2019 in Kinshasa and Luanda, respectively, the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[352] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa[353] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[354]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998, respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[355]

Welcoming the adoption, on 31 May 2022, of Security Council resolution 2634 (2022) on maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea,

Recalling the successful conclusion of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea, held in Yaoundé on 24 and 25 June 2013, the inauguration in Yaoundé, on 11 September 2014, of the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea, the effective commencement of its activities with the installation of its statutory officials in Yaoundé on 22 February 2017, the inauguration of new offices of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa in Pointe Noire, Congo, on 20 October 2014, and the launch of the Multinational Maritime Coordination Centre in Cotonou, Benin, in March 2015, and also the conclusion of the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa, held in Lomé on 15 October 2016,

Recalling also its resolution 69/314 of 30 July 2015, the first such resolution on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and also its resolutions 70/301 of 9 September 2016, 71/326 of 11 September 2017, 73/343 of 16 September 2019 and 75/311 of 23 July 2021, and reaffirming the outcome of the high-level meetings on poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking, hosted by Gabon and Germany and held on the margins of the high-level segments of the sixty-eighth and sixty-ninth sessions of the General Assembly,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for early warning, conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa, and recalling in this regard the concrete conflict prevention initiatives facilitated by the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the Secretariat,

Welcoming the establishment of the Commission of the Economic Community of Central African States and the close cooperation established between the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the Economic Community, as well as the signing of the framework of cooperation agreement between the two entities on 14 June 2016,

Taking note of the decisions adopted by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States at its eighteenth ordinary session, held in Libreville on 27 November 2020, at its nineteenth ordinary session, held virtually on 30 July 2021, and at its twentieth session, held in person in Brazzaville on 19 January 2022,

Welcoming the continued implementation of the institutional reform of the Economic Community of Central African States, including the installation of the Committee of the Wise,

Bearing in mind the increased focus of the Standing Advisory Committee on human security questions, such as trafficking in persons, especially women and children, as an important consideration for subregional peace, stability and conflict prevention, and recalling the adoption by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session of the

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[350] See A/70/682-S/2016/39, annex 3.

[351] A/73/967-S/2019/613, annex, enclosure I.

[352] A/50/474, annex I.

[353] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[354] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[355] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

political declaration on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons[356] following the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the appraisal of the Global Plan of Action,

Expressing continued concern about the fragile situation in the Central African Republic and in the neighbouring countries affected, and noting the importance of promoting the political process through the reactivation of the joint bilateral commissions between the Central African Republic and its neighbours and the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic[357] between the Government and armed groups for lasting peace, in particular with regard to the protection of civilians, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants, and strengthening the authority of the State,

Welcoming the adoption of the joint road map for peace in the Central African Republic at the third mini-summit of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, held in Luanda on 16 September 2021, and the republican dialogue held in Bangui from 21 to 27 March 2022, which brought together the majority of political and social forces with a view to ensuring peace, stability, security and reconciliation in order to find a peaceful solution to the crisis affecting the country,

Highlighting the regional security implications of the situation in the Central African Republic, and reiterating the commitment of the region and the international community to supporting the parties in the effective implementation of the Political Agreement, including through the provision of political, security, technical and financial support,

Welcoming the signature by the Central African Republic and its neighbouring countries, in Yaoundé on 27 April 2022, of a joint declaration on the dignified return of refugees of the Central African Republic to their country,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Confidence-Building Measures,[358] and expressing concern that the issue of mercenaries has become a major security concern, undermining trust and creating tensions among States members of the Standing Advisory Committee,

Welcoming the adoption of the declaration on democratic and peaceful elections as a means of strengthening stability and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Central Africa at the fiftieth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee,[359]

Taking note of the inclusive and sovereign national dialogue on national reconciliation held in N'Djamena from 20 August to 8 October 2022 with the aim of laying new foundations for the peace and stability of Chad,

Welcoming the call by States members of the Economic Community of Central African States during the forty-ninth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee, in Luanda, on the need to strengthen partnership with the United Nations to address the impact of climate change on peace and security in the subregion,

Expressing concern about the impact of cross-border criminality, in particular the activities of the Lord's Resistance Army, the terrorist attacks by groups affiliated with Boko Haram in the Lake Chad basin region and incidents of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea, the illegal exploitation of natural resources, and the issue of transhumance and its cross-border security implications for peace, security and development in Central Africa,

Welcoming the progress made by the States members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and Benin in making the Multinational Joint Task Force operational in order to combat effectively the threat posed by the Boko Haram terrorist group to the Lake Chad basin region,

Recalling the adoption by the Lake Chad Basin Commission, with the support of the African Union, of the Regional Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience Strategy for Areas Affected by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin Region in Abuja on 30 August 2018,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 2349 (2017) of 31 March 2017, in which the Council called for, inter alia, increased assistance to the countries of the region,

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[356] Resolution 72/1.

[357] S/2019/145, annex.

[358] A/73/224, annex IV.

[359] A/76/274, annex I.

Considering the urgent need to prevent the possible movement of illicit weapons, mercenaries and combatants involved in conflicts in the Sahel and in neighbouring countries in the Central African subregion,

Concerned by the persistence of the humanitarian crisis due to the displacement of populations in several Member States, the resurgence of inter-community conflicts due in particular to the scarcity of resources, the use of transhumance for criminal purposes, now identified as a phenomenon of emerging insecurity in Central Africa, as well as the rise of hate speech, especially during electoral processes,

Recalling the conclusions of the fifty-second and fifty-third ministerial meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee, held in Libreville from 22 to 26 November 2021 and in Yaoundé from 30 May to 3 June 2022, respectively,

1. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the subregion;

2. *Welcomes and encourages* the initiative of the States members of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa to further develop collaboration and synergies with the Economic Community of Central African States;

3. *Welcomes* the role played by the Standing Advisory Committee throughout the 30 years of its existence, which has enabled the creation of institutions, such as the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa and the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and its organs, including the early warning mechanism for Central Africa and the Central Africa Multinational Force, that have contributed towards the establishment of lasting peace in the subregion;

4. *Invites* the Standing Advisory Committee and the Economic Community of Central African States to initiate discussions on the relationship between the two entities in the light of the institutional reform of the Economic Community, and urges them to consider how to harmonize their views and actions so as to avoid overlap and duplication in the implementation of their respective mandates;

5. *Encourages* the Standing Advisory Committee, in view of the repositioning of the Economic Community of Central African States and the strengthening of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, to continue to serve within the United Nations as a high-level body for continuous monitoring, reflection and the fostering of solutions, with regard to the concerns and needs of the Central African subregion in the area of peace and security;

6. *Welcomes* efforts under way by the Standing Advisory Committee and its secretariat to implement the communication strategy adopted at the forty-fifth ministerial meeting of the Committee, held in Kigali from 4 to 8 December 2017, and encourages member States and other partners to support initiatives aimed at increasing the visibility of the Committee, including among the populations of the subregion, in cooperation with civil society;

7. *Reaffirms* the importance of disarmament and arms control programmes in Central Africa carried out by the States of the subregion with the support of the United Nations, the African Union and other international partners;

8. *Encourages* Member States to provide assistance to those States members of the Standing Advisory Committee that have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty,[360] and encourages those that have not yet done so to ratify the Treaty;

9. *Encourages* States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and other interested States to provide financial support for the implementation of the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly (Kinshasa Convention), and encourages signatories that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention;

10. *Welcomes* the holding of the first Conference of States Parties to the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Their Ammunition and All Parts and Components That Can Be Used for Their Manufacture, Repair and Assembly, in Yaoundé from 11 to 13 June 2018, in accordance with article 34, paragraph 3, of the Kinshasa Convention, and requests the Secretary-General to convene the review conference of the

[360] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3013, No. 52373.

Kinshasa Convention, in accordance with article 34, paragraph 5, of the Convention, at the earliest opportunity, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States;

11. *Encourages* Member States to assist States parties to the Kinshasa Convention with coordination activities for the control of small arms and light weapons at the regional and national levels, including funding thereof, as expeditiously as possible;

12. *Urges* Member States to increase financing for the Saving Lives Entity fund and to support the projects and activities of Member States, in particular by supporting the establishment and strengthening of national commissions for the control of small arms and light weapons, the establishment of a platform for the exchange of experiences among the national commissions, and the establishment and operationalization of the Convention secretariat;

13. *Reaffirms its support* for the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy[361] and its four pillars, which constitute an ongoing effort, and calls upon Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to step up their efforts to implement the Strategy in an integrated and balanced manner and in all aspects;

14. *Welcomes* the adoption, by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States at its seventeenth ordinary session, on 30 July 2020, of the strategy on preventing and combating terrorism in Central Africa, and requests United Nations, regional and international partners to support its implementation;

15. *Welcomes* the joint summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States and the Economic Community of Central African States, in coordination with the African Union Commission, on peace, security, stability and the fight against terrorism and violent extremism, held in Lomé on 30 July 2018, and recalls the Lomé Declaration on Peace, Security, Stability and the Fight against Terrorism and Violent Extremism adopted at that summit;

16. *Encourages* the Economic Community of Central African States and the Economic Community of West African States to work together towards the implementation of the Lomé Declaration;

17. *Encourages* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee to carry out the programmes of activities adopted at their ministerial meetings, and requests the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa to continue to provide support;

18. *Appeals* to the international community to support the efforts undertaken by the States concerned to implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, and urges the States concerned to ensure that such programmes take into consideration the needs of women and children associated with former combatants;

19. *Welcomes* the efforts of Cameroon and the Congo in providing assistance to the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea and the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, respectively, and urges other member States to honour their financial commitments in order to ensure the predictable and sustainable operation of the two Centres;

20. *Encourages* Member States to continue to implement the outcomes of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea by operationalizing the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea and activities of the Regional Centre for Maritime Security in Central Africa, and also encourages the implementation of the Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa adopted at the African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa;

21. *Calls upon* Member States and subregional bodies to take immediate concerted action to counter the phenomenon of poaching and trafficking in wildlife and natural resources, including through the implementation of the provisions of its resolutions 69/314, 70/301, 71/326, 73/343 and 75/311;

22. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Economic Community of Central African States and the Economic Community of West African States in initiating common policies and joint programmes on the management of

[361] Resolution 60/288.

pastoralism and cross-border transhumance, and encourages the Economic Community of Central African States to adopt the protocol on pastoralism and cross-border transhumance in Central Africa;

23. *Encourages* the development of mechanisms for regulation by the Economic Community of Central African States, and calls for the holding of a high-level conference to discuss issues relating to pastoralism and cross-border transhumance with a view to ensuring joint and integrated management thereof;

24. *Welcomes* the adoption by experts, in Kinshasa on 24 June 2022, of the draft regional strategy and plan of action for preventing and combating hate speech in digital, audiovisual and written communication media in Central Africa, and encourages its political endorsement without delay by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, with a view to the development of a common approach for deconstructing such discourse and promoting coexistence in the countries of the Economic Community of Central African States;

25. *Requests* the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, in collaboration with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, to facilitate the efforts undertaken by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in particular for their execution of the Implementation Plan for the Kinshasa Convention;[362]

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, with the support of the international community, to continue to assist the countries of Central Africa in tackling the issues of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance to the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

28. *Welcomes* the increased contributions made by several Member States to the trust fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, reminds the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee of the commitments that they undertook on the adoption of the Declaration on the Trust Fund of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa on 8 May 2009[363] and the Bangui Declaration on 10 June 2016,[364] and invites those States members of the Committee that have not already done so to contribute to the trust fund;

29. *Urges* other Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee effectively through voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

30. *Urges* the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, to strengthen the gender component of the various meetings of the Committee relating to disarmament and international security, in line with the Sao Tome Declaration on the Participation of Women in the Statutory Meetings of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, adopted on 1 December 2016,[365] in which member States were invited to increase the representation of women in delegations participating in the statutory meetings of the Committee, and strongly encourages the States members of the Committee to ensure that gender-related considerations are taken into account in the activities of the Committee;

31. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support to the Standing Advisory Committee, expresses appreciation for the role played by the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, welcomes the outcome of the strategic review of the Office, and strongly encourages the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee and international partners to support the work of the Office;

32. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Standing Advisory Committee towards addressing cross-border security threats in Central Africa, including activities of groups affiliated with Boko Haram and the Lord's Resistance Army, and acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the Gulf of Guinea, the issue of transhumance and its cross-border security implications, as well as the fallout from the situation in the Central African Republic, and also welcomes the

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[362] See A/65/717-S/2011/53, annex.

[363] A/64/85-S/2009/288, annex I.

[364] A/71/293, annex I.

[365] A/72/363, annex II.

role of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa in coordinating those efforts, working closely with the Economic Community of Central African States, the African Union and all relevant regional and international partners;

33. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for his support for the revitalization of the activities of the Standing Advisory Committee, and requests him to continue to provide the assistance needed to ensure the success of its regular meetings;

34. *Decides* to review the relevance and effectiveness of the work of the Standing Advisory Committee every three years in order to align its scope of competence with the constantly changing institutional environment and the numerous challenges facing Central Africa;

35. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

36. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

RESOLUTION 77/87

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/386, para. 21)[366]

77/87. United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched,[367]

Bearing in mind its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme and the World Disarmament Campaign voluntary trust fund as the voluntary trust fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme,

Recalling its resolutions 51/46 A of 10 December 1996, 53/78 E of 4 December 1998, 55/34 A of 20 November 2000, 57/90 of 22 November 2002, 59/103 of 3 December 2004, 61/95 of 6 December 2006, 63/81 of 2 December 2008, 65/81 of 8 December 2010, 67/67 of 3 December 2012, 69/71 of 2 December 2014, 71/74 of 5 December 2016, 73/79 of 5 December 2018 and 75/80 of 7 December 2020,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[368]

1. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the limited resources available to him and, amid the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, for adapting his working methods to fulfil his mandate in order to continue to disseminate, as widely as possible, information on arms control and disarmament to Governments, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes, and for carrying out a seminar and conference programme;

2. *Stresses* the importance of the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme as a significant instrument in enabling all Member States to participate fully in the deliberations and negotiations on disarmament in

[366] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Kiribati, Lebanon, Mexico, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Spain and Thailand.

[367] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110–111.

[368] A/77/115.

the various United Nations bodies, in assisting them in complying with treaties, as required, and in contributing to agreed mechanisms for transparency;

3. *Commends with satisfaction* the launch of *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook* for 2020 and 2021, as well as its online editions, by the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat and its information centres in pursuit of the objectives of the Programme;

5. *Recommends* that the Programme continue to inform, educate and generate public understanding of the importance of multilateral action and support for it, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms control and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner, and that it focus its efforts:

(a) To continue to publish *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, the flagship publication of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in all official languages, as well as its *Occasional Papers, Study Series* and other ad hoc information materials in accordance with the current practice;

(b) To continue to update the disarmament website as a part of the United Nations website in as many official languages as feasible;

(c) To promote the use of the Programme as a means to provide information related to progress in the implementation of nuclear disarmament measures;

(d) To continue to intensify United Nations interaction with the public, principally non-governmental organizations and research institutes, to help to further an informed debate on topical issues of arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(e) To continue to organize discussions on topics of interest in the field of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to broadening understanding and facilitating an exchange of views and information among Member States and civil society;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of all support extended to the voluntary trust fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, and once again invites all Member States to make further contributions to the fund with a view to sustaining a strong outreach programme;

7. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[369] which reviews the implementation of the recommendations made in the 2002 study on disarmament and non-proliferation education;[370]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the previous two years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

RESOLUTION 77/88

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/386, para. 21)[371]

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[369] A/77/133.

[370] A/57/124.

[371] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Indonesia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

77/88. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/83 of 8 December 2005, 61/90 of 6 December 2006, 62/50 of 5 December 2007, 63/76 of 2 December 2008, 64/58 of 2 December 2009, 65/78 of 8 December 2010, 66/53 of 2 December 2011, 67/63 of 3 December 2012, 68/57 of 5 December 2013, 69/70 of 2 December 2014, 70/61 of 7 December 2015, 71/80 of 5 December 2016, 72/64 of 4 December 2017, 73/80 of 5 December 2018, 74/70 of 12 December 2019, 75/81 of 7 December 2020 and 76/61 of 6 December 2021 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[372] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[373] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[374]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recalling that the thirtieth anniversary of the establishment by the General Assembly of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean was celebrated in 2016 and in 2017,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities and posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament, and bearing in mind in this regard that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that, in paragraph 279 of the Final Document of the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku on 25 and 26 October 2019,[375] the Heads of State or Government emphasized the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament,

1. *Reiterates* the importance of United Nations activities at the regional level to advance disarmament and to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and further strengthening of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

2. *Commends* the three regional centres for peace and disarmament for their sustained support provided to Member States for over 30 years in implementing disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation activities through seminars and conferences, capacity-building and training, policy and technical expertise, and information and advocacy at the global, regional and national levels;

3. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

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[372] A/77/121.

[373] A/77/118.

[374] A/77/120.

[375] A/74/548, annex.

4. *Appeals* to Member States in each region that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions in order to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the Regional Disarmament Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all support necessary, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly", the sub-item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

RESOLUTION 77/89

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 159 to none, with 12 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/387, para. 11)[376]

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Against: None
Abstaining: Austria, Canada, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Russian Federation, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukraine

77/89. Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[377]

Recalling its resolution 76/62 of 6 December 2021,

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the addresses of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, and referring to their various expressions of support for and concern about the endeavours of the Conference and calls for the Conference to commence negotiations without delay to advance disarmament goals through the adoption of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Recognizing also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and emphasizing the importance of effective multilateralism in the context of the changing international climate,

[376] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Ecuador.

[377] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/77/27).

Noting with renewed concern that, despite the intensive efforts by States members and Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament at its 2022 session to reach consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals and suggestions, the Conference did not succeed in commencing its substantive work by means of negotiations or agree to a programme of work, although the Conference did hold substantive discussions in the framework of subsidiary bodies established for that purpose,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of priority issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

Welcoming the overwhelming call for greater flexibility with respect to implementing the substantive work of the Conference on Disarmament on the basis of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Underlining the need for continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as among the successive Presidents of the Conference,

Noting with appreciation the efforts and contributions made at the 2022 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda,

Acknowledging the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, as a stand-alone, autonomous institution, and the contribution that its research makes,

Recognizing the importance of engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament according to decisions taken by the Conference,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Appreciates* the strong support expressed for the Conference on Disarmament at its 2022 session by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, while also acknowledging their concern about its ongoing impasse, and takes into account their calls for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference without further delay;

3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and to explore possibilities for overcoming its ongoing deadlock of two decades by adopting and implementing a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2023 session, bearing in mind the decision on the programme of work adopted by the Conference on 29 May 2009,[378] as well as other relevant present, past and future proposals;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament, contained in document CD/2229, adopted on 22 February 2022, on the establishment of subsidiary bodies on each agenda item from 1 to 4, and one on agenda items 5, 6 and 7, for the 2022 session, and the adoption by the Conference of the substantive reports of subsidiary bodies 3 and 5;

5. *Takes note* of other discussions held in the course of the 2022 session;

6. *Encourages* the current President and the incoming President of the Conference on Disarmament to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, to make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

7. *Requests* the current President and successive Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the States members of the Conference in the effort to guide the Conference to the early commencement of its substantive work, including negotiations, at its 2023 session;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing consultations in 2023 on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament;

[378] Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/64/27), para. 18.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and to strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;

10. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on its work;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

RESOLUTION 77/90

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/387, para. 11)[379]

77/90. Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[380]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005, 61/98 of 6 December 2006, 62/54 of 5 December 2007, 63/83 of 2 December 2008, 64/65 of 2 December 2009, 65/86 of 8 December 2010, 66/60 of 2 December 2011, 67/71 of 3 December 2012, 68/63 of 5 December 2013, 69/77 of 2 December 2014, 70/68 of 7 December 2015, 71/82 of 5 December 2016, 72/66 of 4 December 2017 and 73/82 of 5 December 2018, and its decisions 74/511 of 12 December 2019, 74/546 of 2 April 2020, 75/519 A of 7 December 2020, 75/519 B of 25 March 2021 and 76/518 of 6 December 2021,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in promoting the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Recalling in particular General Assembly resolution 45/62 B of 4 December 1990, in which it noted with satisfaction the adoption by consensus of a set of "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission",[381] Assembly decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 concerning the efficient functioning of the Commission and Assembly resolution 61/98, which contains additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the Commission,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative subsidiary body of the General Assembly that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues, and recalling that the Commission shall make every effort to ensure that, insofar as possible, decisions on substantive issues be adopted by consensus, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[382]

Emphasizing once again the important place of the Disarmament Commission within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;

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[379] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the members of the Bureau of the Disarmament Commission).

[380] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/77/42).

[381] Resolution 44/119 C, annex.

[382] Resolution S-10/2.

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament, notes that the Commission has not submitted recommendations to the last five sessions of the General Assembly, and therefore encourages the revitalization of the work of the Commission in its current triennial cycle;

3. *Emphasizes* the need for a focused and results-oriented discussion on the items on the agenda of the Disarmament Commission;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";

5. *Recalls* the fact that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 52/492, at its 376th meeting, on 4 April 2022, the Disarmament Commission adopted the provisional agenda for its substantive session of 2022, and that the Commission decided that 2022 be considered a second year of the three-year cycle;

6. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2023:

(a) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

(b) Preparation of recommendations to promote the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space, in accordance with the recommendations set out in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities;[383]

7. *Notes* that the Disarmament Commission encourages the Chairs of its working groups to continue, during the intersessional period, informal consultations on the agenda item allocated to each of the groups;

8. *Encourages* the Disarmament Commission to invite, as appropriate, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to prepare background papers on the items on its agenda and, if need be, other disarmament experts to present their views, as provided for in paragraph 3 (e) of resolution 61/98, upon the invitation of the Chair and with the prior approval of the Commission;

9. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to hold a substantive session for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2023, namely, from 3 to 21 April, and an organizational session at the beginning of 2023 before the substantive session, to elect its Bureau and address other outstanding organizational matters, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, and stresses that the report of the Commission should contain a summary by the Chair of the proceedings to reflect different views or positions if no agreement can be reached on the specific agenda item deliberated on, as provided for in paragraph 3.4 of the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the resources and services necessary, including verbatim records, to that end, and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament on its 2022 session,[384] together with all the official records of the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

11. *Invites* Member States to submit their views and proposals on the matter early enough to enable practical consultations among them prior to the beginning of the substantive session of 2023 of the Disarmament Commission,

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[383] A/68/189.

[384] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/77/27).

with a view to facilitating its constructive outcome, and in this regard encourages the Chair-designate to commence consultations and preparations for the substantive session of 2023 in a timely manner upon his or her nomination;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

RESOLUTION 77/91

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 149 to 6, with 26 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/388, para. 7)[385]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Liberia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, India, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Monaco, Netherlands, Panama, Poland, Romania, Rwanda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

77/91. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions, the latest of which is resolution 76/63 of 6 December 2021,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(66)/RES/12, adopted on 29 September 2022,

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the Agency,

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[386] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[387] as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

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[385] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the League of Arab States), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and State of Palestine.

[386] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex.

[387] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[388] the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty, called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on 11 May 1995, in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty, and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards,

Acknowledging that, in the Final Document of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[389] the Conference emphasized the importance of a process leading to full implementation of the 1995 resolution on the Middle East and decided, inter alia, that the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the co-sponsors of the 1995 resolution, in consultation with the States of the region, would convene a conference in 2012, to be attended by all States of the Middle East, on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States of the region, and with the full support and engagement of the nuclear-weapon States,

Expressing regret and concern that the conference was not convened in 2012 as mandated and that little progress has been achieved towards the implementation of the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty,

Noting, in this context, the relevant resolutions of the League of Arab States aiming at the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,[390]

Recalling that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become a party to the Treaty,

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to seriously consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under Agency safeguards,

Noting that 186 States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[391] including a number of States in the region,

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[388] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II), NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III) and NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part IV)).

[389] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I), NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. II) and NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. III)).

[390] A/77/153 (Part II).

[391] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

1. *Recalls* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[392] and calls for the speedy and full implementation of the commitments contained therein;

2. *Stresses* that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty[393] is an essential element of the outcome of the 1995 Conference and of the basis on which the Treaty was indefinitely extended without a vote in 1995;

3. *Reiterates* that the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty remains valid until its goals and objectives are achieved;

4. *Calls for* immediate steps towards the full implementation of that resolution;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

6. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty without further delay, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, to renounce possession of nuclear weapons and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 77/92

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/389, para. 7)[394]

77/92. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/64 of 6 December 2021,

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption and entry into force of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[395] and its amended article 1,[396] the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[397] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[398] and its amended version,[399] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[400]

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[392] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*, sect. IV.

[393] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I)/Corr.2), annex.

[394] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by France.

[395] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[396] Ibid., vol. 2260, No. 22495.

[397] Ibid., vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[398] Ibid., vol. 1342, No. 22495.

[399] Ibid., vol. 2048, No. 22495.

[400] Ibid., vol. 1342, No. 22495.

the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV)[401] and the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V),[402]

Welcoming the results of the Sixth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 13 to 17 December 2021, and the adoption of its final document,[403]

Welcoming also the results of the Twenty-third Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II, held in Geneva on 10 December 2021,

Welcoming further the results of the Fifteenth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, held in Geneva on 9 December 2021,

Noting with satisfaction that the Meeting of the Group of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and the Meeting of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V were held in Geneva on 20 and 21 July and 22 July 2022, respectively,

Noting with satisfaction also that the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention met in Geneva from 2 to 8 December 2021 and from 7 to 11 March and 25 to 29 July 2022, and noting with satisfaction further the adoption of the report of the 2021 session of the Group of Governmental Experts[404] on 8 December 2021 and the adoption of the report of the 2022 session of the Group of Governmental Experts[405] on 29 July 2022,

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of various categories of conventional weapons which may be deemed to be excessively injurious or to have indiscriminate effects,

Emphasizing the importance of the perspectives of women, men, boys and girls in considering the issues addressed by the Convention and its Protocols,

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects and the Protocols thereto, as amended, with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date and so as to ultimately achieve their universality;

2. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention and the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the universalization of the Protocol on Explosive Remnants of War (Protocol V);

4. *Welcomes* additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention, as well as consents to be bound by the Protocols thereto;

5. *Acknowledges* the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and of the respective office holders of the conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention, Protocol V and Amended Protocol II, on behalf of the High Contracting Parties, to achieve the goal of universality;

6. *Welcomes* the work of the Implementation Support Unit;

7. *Calls upon* the High Contracting Parties and States not parties to the Convention participating in the meetings of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention and its annexed Protocols to ensure full compliance with

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[401] Ibid., vol. 2024, No. 22495.

[402] Ibid., vol. 2399, No. 22495.

[403] CCW/CONF.VI/11.

[404] CCW/GGE.1/2021/3.

[405] CCW/GGE.1/2022/2.

all financial obligations under the Convention and its annexed Protocols, and calls upon the High Contracting Parties to explore measures that could reduce costs and improve the efficiency and financial stability of such meetings without prejudice to the rules of procedure and to their quality, and their commitment to address issues arising from outstanding contributions in a timely manner;

8. *Recalls* the following decisions by the Sixth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention:

(a) To continue the work of the open-ended Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems, established in decision 1 of the Fifth Review Conference of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention,[406] adhering to the agreed recommendations contained in document CCW/CONF.V/2 in line with decision 1 of the Sixth Review Conference,[407] to strengthen the Convention, and to organize a total of 10 days of meetings of the Group of Governmental Experts, to be held in Geneva in 2022;

(b) To adopt the consolidated financial measures contained in annex III to document CCW/CONF.VI/11, which may be reviewed by the meetings of the High Contracting Parties during the review cycle of 2022–2026;

(c) To continue the Sponsorship Programme;

(d) To organize in 2022, in in-person format, in accordance with the regular practice under the Convention and the relevant decisions taken by the Twenty-third Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and the Fifteenth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V, and subject to available resources, the following activities:

(i) Meeting of the Group of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II on 20 and 21 July 2022;

(ii) Meeting of Experts of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V on 22 July 2022;

(iii) Meeting of the Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems from 7 to 11 March and from 25 to 29 July 2022, and to adopt its estimated costs;[408]

(iv) Sixteenth Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V on 14 November 2022;

(v) Twenty-fourth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II on 15 November 2022;

(vi) Meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention from 16 to 18 November 2022, and to adopt its estimated costs;[409]

9. *Welcomes* the commitment by the High Contracting Parties to continue to contribute to the further development of international humanitarian law, and, in this context, to keep under review both the development of new weapons and uses of weapons, which may have indiscriminate effects or cause unnecessary suffering;

10. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the High Contracting Parties to Protocol V to the effective and efficient implementation of the Protocol and the implementation of the decisions of the First and Second Conferences of the High Contracting Parties to the Protocol establishing a comprehensive framework for the exchange of information and cooperation;

11. *Notes* that, in conformity with article 8 of the Convention, conferences may be convened to examine amendments to the Convention or to any of the Protocols thereto, to examine additional protocols concerning other categories of conventional weapons not covered by existing Protocols or to review the scope and application of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to examine any proposed amendments or additional protocols;

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[406] See CCW/CONF.V/10.

[407] See CCW/CONF.VI/11.

[408] CCW/CONF.VI/7.

[409] CCW/CONF.VI/8.

12. *Underlines* the vital role of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and implementation of the Convention;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the assistance necessary and to provide such services as may be required for the annual conferences and expert meetings of the High Contracting Parties to the Convention and of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II and Protocol V, as well as for any continuation of the work after the meetings;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically, by electronic means, of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention, its amended article 1 and the Protocols;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

RESOLUTION 77/93

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 175 to none, with 3 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/390, para. 7)[410]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Against: None
Abstaining: Israel, Liberia, United States of America

77/93. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 76/65 of 6 December 2021,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Welcoming the efforts deployed by the Euro-Mediterranean countries to strengthen their cooperation in combating terrorism, in particular through the adoption of the Euro-Mediterranean Code of Conduct on Countering Terrorism by the Euro-Mediterranean Summit, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 27 and 28 November 2005,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

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[410] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, Eritrea, France, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Mauritania, Myanmar, Netherlands, Nigeria, Portugal, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sudan, Tunisia, Türkiye and Zimbabwe.

Recalling, in this regard, the adoption on 13 July 2008 of the Joint Declaration of the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean, which launched a reinforced partnership, named the "Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean", and the common political will to revive efforts to transform the Mediterranean into an area of peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity,

Welcoming the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[411] as a contribution to the strengthening of peace and security both regionally and internationally,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, as well as their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[412]

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Expressing concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[413]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Invites* Mediterranean countries to consolidate their efforts in order to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles, as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area, will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

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[411] A/50/426, annex.

[412] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[413] A/77/131.

5. *Calls upon* all countries of the Mediterranean region to adhere to the relevant multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the conditions necessary for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the conditions necessary for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, including the possible resort by terrorists to weapons of mass destruction, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

RESOLUTION 77/94

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 179 to 1, with 4 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/391, para. 7)[414]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Abstaining: India, Mauritius, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic

[414] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

77/94. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process for achieving nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and will be a major contribution to international peace and security,

Stressing also the vital importance and urgency of achieving the entry into force of the Treaty, and affirming its resolute determination, 26 years after the Treaty was opened for signature, to achieve its entry into force,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by 186 States, including 41 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of the Treaty by 176 States, including 36 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, among which there are 3 nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 76/66 of 6 December 2021,

Recalling also the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[415] in which the Conference, inter alia, reaffirmed the vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and included specific actions to be taken in support of the entry into force of the Treaty,

Recalling further the Final Declaration adopted by the twelfth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 23 and 24 September 2021, convened pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, and recalling the joint statement issued by the Friends of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty on 21 September 2022,

Noting the contribution of diverse and inclusive participation in building and sustaining momentum for the universalization and entry into force of the Treaty, including through the Youth Group of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,

Welcoming continuing progress in the development of the Treaty's verification regime, which advances the Treaty's primary non-proliferation and disarmament objective, and the establishment of 303 certified facilities of the International Monitoring System network,

Recognizing the civil and scientific benefits provided by the Treaty's global monitoring system,

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, in order to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[416]

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the signatory States to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the verification regime of the Treaty will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty, and encourages their continuation;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards the completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the

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[415] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

[416] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Reiterates its condemnation* of the six nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in violation of relevant Security Council resolutions,[417] urges full compliance with the obligations under those resolutions, including that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea abandon its nuclear weapons programme and not conduct any further nuclear tests, reaffirms its support for the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner, welcomes all efforts and dialogue to this end, and encourages all parties to continue diplomatic efforts;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed or ratified, or that have signed but not yet ratified, the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to sign and ratify it as soon as possible and to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

7. *Welcomes*, since the adoption of its previous resolution on the subject, the signature and ratification of the Treaty by Dominica and the ratification of the Treaty by Equatorial Guinea, the Gambia, Sao Tome and Principe, Timor-Leste and Tuvalu, since each signature or ratification is a significant step towards the entry into force and universalization of the Treaty;

8. *Encourages* further expressions from among the remaining States whose ratification is needed for the Treaty to enter into force of their intention to pursue and complete the ratification process;

9. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

RESOLUTION 77/95

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/392, para. 7)[418]

77/95. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions relating to the complete and effective prohibition of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and on their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction the increase in the number of accessions to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,[419] and stressing at the same time that there is a continuing need to achieve its universalization,

Reaffirming its call upon all signatory States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so without delay, and calling upon those States that have not signed the Convention to become parties thereto at the earliest possible date, thus contributing to the achievement of universal adherence to the Convention, which will facilitate its success,

Bearing in mind its call upon all States parties to the Convention to participate in the implementation of the recommendations of the review conferences of the parties to the Convention, including the exchange of information and data agreed to in the Final Declaration of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, later amended by the Final Declaration of the Seventh Review Conference, and to provide such

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[417] Including Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006), 1874 (2009), 2094 (2013), 2270 (2016), 2321 (2016) and 2375 (2017).

[418] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Hungary.

[419] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, No. 14860.

information and data in conformity with the standardized procedure to the Implementation Support Unit within the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat on an annual basis and no later than 15 April,

Welcoming the reaffirmation made in the Final Declarations of the Fourth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Review Conferences that under all circumstances the use of bacteriological (biological) and toxin weapons and their development, production and stockpiling are effectively prohibited under article I of the Convention,

Recognizing the importance of ongoing efforts by States parties to enhance international cooperation, assistance and the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for the use of bacteriological (biological) agents and toxins for peaceful purposes, recognizing also that there still remain challenges to be overcome in order to enhance international cooperation, and recognizing further the value of building capacity through international cooperation as well as strengthening coordination and coherence of efforts of all relevant international organizations, in line with the Final Document of the Eighth Review Conference,[420]

Reaffirming the importance of national measures, in accordance with constitutional processes, in strengthening the implementation of the Convention by States parties, in line with the Final Document of the Eighth Review Conference,

Reaffirming also the importance of the review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention,

Encouraging the equitable participation of women and men in the framework of the Convention,

Recalling previous intersessional processes carried out under the Convention,

Noting, in the decisions and recommendations of the Final Document, that the Eighth Review Conference decided that States parties would hold annual meetings and that the first such meeting would start on 4 December 2017, have a duration of up to five days and seek to make progress on issues of substance and process for the period before the next Review Conference, with a view to reaching consensus on an intersessional process,

Noting also the Formal Consultative Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention requested by the Russian Federation and convened in Geneva on 26 August 2022 and reconvened from 5 to 9 September 2022, the presentation by the Russian Federation of its article V consultation request regarding outstanding questions by the Russian Federation to the United States of America and Ukraine concerning the fulfilment of their respective obligations under the Convention in the context of the operation of biological laboratories in Ukraine, the responses by Ukraine and the United States of America, that no consensus was reached regarding the outcome of the Formal Consultative Meeting, and the final report of the Formal Consultative Meeting,

Recalling the decision of the Eighth Review Conference that the Ninth Review Conference shall be held in Geneva not later than 2021,

1. *Notes* the consensus outcome of and the decisions on all provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction reached at the Eighth Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and calls upon States parties to the Convention to participate and actively engage in their continued implementation;

2. *Notes with appreciation* that the meeting of States parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 4 to 8 December 2017, was able to reach consensus on reaffirming previous intersessional programmes carried out during the period 2003–2015, on retaining the previous structure of annual meetings of States parties preceded by annual meetings of experts, and on reaffirming that the purpose of the intersessional programme was to discuss, and promote common understanding and effective action on, those issues identified for inclusion in the intersessional programme, and that the work of the intersessional period would be guided by the aim of strengthening the implementation of all articles of the Convention in order to better respond to current challenges;[421]

3. *Also notes with appreciation* that, in the light of the need to balance an ambition to improve the intersessional programme within the financial and human resources constraints facing States parties, 12 days were allocated to the intersessional programme each year from 2018 to 2020, that the meetings of experts for eight days

[420] BWC/CONF.VIII/4 and BWC/CONF.VIII/4/Corr.1.

[421] See BWC/MSP/2017/6.

would be held back to back and at least three months before the annual meetings of States parties of four days each, and that the meetings of experts would be open-ended and would consider the following topics: cooperation and assistance, with a particular focus on strengthening cooperation and assistance under article X (two days); review of developments in the field of science and technology related to the Convention (two days); strengthening national implementation (one day); assistance, response and preparedness (two days); and institutional strengthening of the Convention (one day);

4. *Appreciates* the information and data on confidence-building measures provided by States parties to the Convention to date, and calls upon all States parties to participate in the exchange of information and data on confidence-building measures called for in the relevant decisions of the review conferences, and invites them to make use of the new platform for electronic submission, on a voluntary basis, without prejudice to their choice of methods for submission;

5. *Notes* the decision of the Eighth Review Conference to continue and improve the database established by the Seventh Review Conference to facilitate requests for and offers of exchange of assistance and cooperation, and urges States parties to submit to the Implementation Support Unit, on a voluntary basis, requests for and offers of cooperation and assistance, including in terms of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information regarding the use of biological and toxin agents for peaceful purposes;

6. *Encourages* States parties to provide, at least biannually, appropriate information on their implementation of article X of the Convention and to collaborate to offer assistance or training, upon request, as contained in specific proposals, in support of the legislative and other implementation measures of States parties needed to ensure their compliance with the Convention;

7. *Notes* the decision of the Eighth Review Conference to renew the sponsorship programme established by the Seventh Review Conference in order to support and increase the participation of developing States parties in the annual meetings, welcomes the continued willingness among States parties to provide voluntary contributions, and calls upon States parties in a position to do so to offer voluntary contributions for the programme;

8. *Also notes* the decision of the Eighth Review Conference to renew the mandate of the Implementation Support Unit agreed to at the Seventh Review Conference, mutatis mutandis, for the period from 2017 to 2021, and notes with appreciation the work of the Unit;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the events organized by some States parties, regional organizations and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat for exchanges of views on the implementation of the Convention, and encourages States parties to continue to participate in such informal exchanges and discussions;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to continue to provide such services as may be required for the conduct and the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the review conferences;

11. *Recalls* that the meeting of States parties in Geneva in December 2018 agreed that the financial difficulties of the Convention stemmed from three principal sources, namely the non-payment of contributions by some States parties, delays in the receipt of contributions from other States parties and the financial requirements of the United Nations with respect to activities not funded from its regular budget, and calls upon States parties to consider ways of addressing these serious issues as a matter of urgency;

12. *Notes* that the meeting of States parties in Geneva in December 2019 welcomed the improvement of the financial situation for that year, following the measures endorsed by the meeting of States parties in 2018, including the establishment of the working capital fund, and stressed the need to continue monitoring the financial situation of the Convention and requested the Chair of the 2020 meeting of States parties, in close consultation with the States parties, the Implementation Support Unit, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Office at Geneva, to report on the overall financial situation of the Convention, implementation of the measures endorsed in 2018, and possible further measures, in a transparent way and taking into account outstanding credits for those States parties that paid their contribution in full, to bring about timely payment as required, for consideration by the 2020 meeting of States parties;[422]

[422] BWC/MSP/2019/7, para. 23.

13. *Also notes* that, taking into account section VIII of the report of the 2019 meeting of States parties[423] and section VII of the report of the 2020 meeting of States parties,[424] as well as the extraordinary circumstances, at the Preparatory Committee held on 20 December 2021 and from 4 to 11 April 2022, States parties agreed upon the organization of the Ninth Review Conference;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 77/96

Adopted at the 46th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 94 to 53, with 28 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/393, para. 7)[425]

* *In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Madagascar, Maldives, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Seychelles

77/96. Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/234 of 24 December 2021,

Recalling also the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[426] the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction[427] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction[428] and the provisions of relevant United Nations resolutions,

Reaffirming the need for all Member States to fulfil their obligations in relation to arms control and disarmament and to prevent proliferation, in all its aspects, of all weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

Reaffirming also that proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery, constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

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[423] Ibid., paras. 31–32.

[424] BWC/MSP/2020/7.

[425] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

[426] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[427] Ibid., vol. 1015, No. 14860.

[428] Ibid., vol. 1974, No. 33757.

Reaffirming further support for the multilateral treaties whose aim is to eliminate or prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and the importance for all States parties to these treaties of implementing them fully in order to promote international stability,

Bearing in mind the potential impact of scientific and technological advances on global security,

Recognizing the inalienable right of all States to participate in the fullest possible exchange of equipment, materials and scientific and technological information for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming that measures preventing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons should not hamper international cooperation on materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes, while the right to peaceful uses should not be abused for proliferation purposes,

Bearing in mind the significant role of international cooperation on materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes in facilitating the economic and social development of Member States, in particular developing countries,

Acknowledging that all countries are entitled to benefit from science and technology, and that there is a strong need to continue exchanges in science and technology for peaceful purposes, including in accordance with relevant international obligations,

Acknowledging also the importance of technology as a key driver of sustainable development, and that broad and equitable access to goods and technologies facilitates current and future development,

Welcoming the political commitments and concrete efforts by Member States in promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses, as well as progress made within multilateral frameworks and through bilateral channels,

Welcoming also the various initiatives for promoting international cooperation for peaceful uses, including initiatives to strengthen the technical cooperation programme of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the proposal to establish a mechanism to promote the full, effective and non-discriminatory implementation of article X of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction and the call for a plan of action for the full implementation of article XI of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,

Recognizing the need to fulfil obligations and commitments regarding peaceful uses through concrete actions to continuously promote peaceful uses for all States,

Noting with concern that undue restrictions on exports to developing countries of materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes persist,

Emphasizing that proliferation concerns are best addressed through multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory agreements,

Emphasizing also that non-proliferation control arrangements should be transparent and open to participation by all States and should ensure that no restrictions are imposed on access to materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes required by developing countries for their continued sustainable development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session,[429] as well as the views and recommendations of Member States contained in the report,

Emphasizing the importance of promoting international cooperation for peaceful purposes and the need for further deliberation on this important topic within the framework of the United Nations in an open and inclusive way and utilizing existing international, regional and bilateral mechanisms and arrangements,

1. *Urges* all Member States, without prejudice to their non-proliferation obligations, to take concrete measures to promote international cooperation on materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes, in particular not to maintain any restrictions incompatible with the obligations undertaken;

[429] A/77/96.

2. *Encourages* all Member States, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General and the views and recommendations contained therein, to continue dialogues on promoting peaceful uses and relevant international cooperation, including by identifying gaps and challenges, as well as ideas and opportunities for strengthening cooperation, and exploring possible ways forward;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled "Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses in the context of international security".

RESOLUTION 77/250

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 115 to 47, with 7 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/383, para. 16)[430]

* *In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Brazil, Chile, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Switzerland

77/250. Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 71/31 and 71/32 of 5 December 2016, 71/90 of 6 December 2016, 72/250 of 24 December 2017, 73/6 of 26 October 2018, 73/91 of 7 December 2018, 74/34 of 12 December 2019 and 76/230 of 24 December 2021 and its decisions 73/512 of 5 December 2018 and 75/514 of 7 December 2020, as well as its other resolutions and decisions on this subject,

Expressing grave alarm over the threat of an arms race in outer space, which would impair the prospects for limiting and reducing armaments in general and erect insurmountable barriers to international cooperation in the peaceful exploration of outer space,

Recognizing the catastrophic consequences of an arms race in outer space, which should be used exclusively for peaceful and creative purposes, or any military conflicts in outer space and that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[431]

Bearing in mind that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in

[430] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

[431] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, with the objective of shaping a community of shared future for humankind,

Recognizing that, while the existing international treaties related to outer space and the legal regime provided for therein play a positive role in regulating outer space activities, they are unable to fully prevent an arms race in outer space, the placement of weapons in outer space and the threat or use of force in outer space, from space against Earth and from Earth against objects in outer space, and preserve outer space for peaceful purposes, and that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce this regime,

Expressing serious concern over the plans declared by certain States that include placement of weapons, in particular strike combat systems, in outer space, the threat or use of force in outer space, from space against Earth and from Earth against objects in outer space and the use of outer space for combat operations,

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space and preserve outer space for peaceful purposes,

Welcoming, in this regard, the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects, introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,[432] and the submission of its updated version in 2014,[433]

Stressing the importance of the political statements made by a number of States[434] that they would not be the first to place weapons in outer space,

Recognizing the primary role and responsibility of the Conference on Disarmament in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements on the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Taking into account the work done by the Group of Governmental Experts on Further Practical Measures for the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space in 2018 and 2019 in the search for further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space, in particular in the course of future negotiations at the Conference on Disarmament on the international legally binding instrument in this regard,

1. *Proclaims* it a historic responsibility of all States to ensure that the exploration of outer space is carried out exclusively for peaceful purposes for the benefit of mankind;

2. *Declares* that the exclusion of outer space from the sphere of the arms race and the preservation of outer space for peaceful purposes should become a mandatory norm of State policy and a generally recognized international obligation;

3. *Calls upon* all States, and above all those with major space capabilities, to this end:

(a) To take urgent measures to prevent for all time the placement of weapons in outer space and the threat or use of force in outer space, from space against Earth and from Earth against objects in outer space;

(b) To seek through negotiations the early elaboration of appropriate reliably verifiable legally binding multilateral agreements;

4. *Expresses its deep regret* over the years of stalemate in the work of the Conference on Disarmament, and looks forward to the Conference again fulfilling its mandate as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum;

5. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on and implement at its earliest opportunity a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on an international legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, including on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force in outer space, from space against Earth and from Earth against objects in outer space;

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[432] See CD/1839.

[433] See CD/1985.

[434] Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

6. *Acknowledges* that the guaranteed prevention of an arms race in outer space will provide an opportunity for the peaceful exploration of outer space and its use in solving acute major problems relating to economic, social and cultural development facing mankind today, as well as in consolidating the efforts of States of the world in this domain;

7. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 76/230,[435] and his recommendation that Member States study the ideas contained in the report and consider how they can be taken forward within relevant United Nations forums;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations Group of Governmental Experts, with a membership of up to 25 Member States, chosen on the basis of fair and equitable geographical representation, to consider and make recommendations on substantial elements of an international legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, including, inter alia, on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space;

9. *Decides* that the newly established Group of Governmental Experts will operate by consensus, without prejudice to national positions in future negotiations, and hold two 2-week sessions in Geneva, one in 2023 and the other in 2024;

10. *Requests* the Chair of the Group of Governmental Experts to organize, in New York, a two-day open-ended intersessional informal consultative meeting, in 2024, so that all Member States can engage in interactive discussions and share their views on the basis of a report on the work of the Group to be provided by the Chair in his own capacity;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Group of Governmental Experts to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session and to the Conference on Disarmament prior to its 2025 session;

12. *Decides* that, if the Conference on Disarmament agrees upon and implements a balanced and comprehensive programme of work that includes the negotiation of an international legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, including, inter alia, on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space, the newly established Group of Governmental Experts will conclude its work and submit the results thereof to the Secretary-General for onward transmission to the Conference on Disarmament;

13. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space", the sub-item entitled "Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RESOLUTION 77/251

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/385, para. 110)[436]

77/251. Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/66 of 8 December 2005, 61/75 of 6 December 2006, 62/43 of 5 December 2007, 63/68 of 2 December 2008, 64/49 of 2 December 2009, 65/68 of 8 December 2010, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 69/38 of 2 December 2014, 70/53 of 7 December 2015, 71/42 of 5 December 2016, 71/90 of 6 December 2016, 72/56 of 4 December 2017, 73/72 of 5 December 2018, 74/67 of 12 December 2019, 75/69 of 7 December 2020 and 76/55 of 6 December 2021, as well as its decision 66/517 of 2 December 2011,

[435] A/77/80.

[436] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cambodia, China, Comoros, Cuba, Eritrea, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

Recalling also the report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 1993 to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, the annex to which contains the study by governmental experts on the application of confidence-building measures in outer space,[437]

Reaffirming the right of all countries to explore and use outer space in accordance with international law,

Reaffirming also that preventing an arms race in outer space is in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and is an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Recalling, in this context, its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it recognized the need for increased transparency and confirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means of reinforcing the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Noting the constructive debates that the Conference on Disarmament has held on this subject and the views expressed by Member States,

Noting also the ongoing discussions of the open-ended working group established by resolution 76/231 of 24 December 2021,

Recalling the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,[438] and the submission of its updated version[439] in 2014,

Noting that, since 2004, several States[440] have introduced a policy of not being the first State to place weapons in outer space,

Noting also that, since 2022, several States have made national commitments not to conduct destructive direct-ascent anti-satellite missile tests,

Noting with satisfaction the resumption of activities of the Disarmament Commission and its working group tasked with preparing recommendations relating to the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Recognizing that the work within the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and its Legal Subcommittee, including the promotion of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, has a fundamental role to play in enhancing transparency and confidence-building among States and in ensuring that outer space is maintained for peaceful purposes,

Noting the contribution of Member States that have submitted to the Secretary-General concrete proposals on international outer space transparency and confidence-building measures pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 61/75, paragraph 2 of resolution 62/43, paragraph 2 of resolution 63/68 and paragraph 2 of resolution 64/49,

Recalling the work done in 2012 and 2013 by the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities, which was convened by the Secretary-General, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, to conduct a study on outer space transparency and confidence-building measures,

Convinced of the necessity of further examining the transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities and their practical implementation,

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[437] A/48/305 and A/48/305/Corr.1.

[438] See CD/1839.

[439] See CD/1985.

[440] Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

Recalling the consideration of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts,[441] as well as views on the modalities of making practical use of the recommendations contained therein, as set out in the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on its fifty-eighth session, held in 2015,[442] at which it found that the Committee had a fundamental role to play in enhancing transparency and confidence-building among States, as well as in ensuring that outer space is maintained for peaceful purposes,

Noting that, in its report, the Group of Governmental Experts had recognized the value of the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in developing a set of voluntary, non-legally binding guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, some of which could be considered as potential transparency and confidence-building measures, while others could enhance the safety of outer space activities and thereby provide the technical basis for the further implementation of additional transparency and confidence-building measures,

Welcoming the adoption in 2019 by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its sixty-second session of the preamble and 21 Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, as contained in annex II to the report of the Committee,[443] the implementation of which may have a positive effect on international peace and security, as well as the continuation of efforts both to identify and study challenges and to consider possible new guidelines for the long-term sustainability of outer space activities,

Recalling the special report by the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space) on the implementation of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts, and the recommendations contained therein, as submitted to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space at its fifty-ninth session, in 2016,[444]

Welcoming the revised International Telecommunication Union resolution 186 on strengthening the role of the Union with regard to transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, adopted by the 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference of the Union, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 29 October to 16 November 2018,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities, considered by the General Assembly on 5 December 2013;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to review and implement, to the greatest extent practicable, the proposed transparency and confidence-building measures contained in the report, through the relevant national mechanisms, on a voluntary basis and in a manner consistent with the national interests of Member States;

3. *Also encourages* Member States, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report, with a view to promoting the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures, to hold regular discussions in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament on the prospects for their implementation;

4. *Requests* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system, to which, in accordance with its resolution 68/50, the report was circulated, to assist in effectively implementing the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

5. *Encourages* the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to coordinate, as appropriate, on matters related to the recommendations contained in the report;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of undertaking further work at the Disarmament Commission on preparing recommendations relating to the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space;

7. *Welcomes* the joint ad hoc meetings of the First and Fourth Committees, held on 22 October 2015, 12 October 2017 and 31 October 2019, on possible challenges to space security and sustainability, convened in accordance with the report and its resolutions 69/38, 71/90, 73/72 and 73/91, and the substantive exchanges of opinions on various aspects of security in outer space that took place during the meetings;

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[441] A/68/189.

[442] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/70/20).

[443] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/74/20).

[444] A/AC.105/1116.

8. *Also welcomes* the convening of a joint half-day panel discussion of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee) and the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) to address possible challenges to space security and sustainability during the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly;

9. *Calls upon* Member States and the relevant entities and organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the full range of conclusions and recommendations contained in the report;

10. *Recalls* the report of the Secretary-General on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities in the United Nations system, which contains summaries of the submissions received from Member States giving their views on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;[445]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views and proposals of Member States about the practical implementation of transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-building Measures in Outer Space Activities of 2013, and to submit a substantive report, with an annex containing those views, to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, for further discussion by Member States;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament", the sub-item entitled "Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities".

[445] A/72/65 and A/72/65/Add.1.

III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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RESOLUTION 77/119

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/397, para. 8)[1]

77/119. Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which humankind and the environment are exposed,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on humankind and the environment, and conscious also of the increased volume, complexity and diversity of that information,

Acknowledging the concerns about the radiological consequences of nuclear accidents,

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work, and welcoming the increased commitment of States members of the Committee,

Emphasizing the vital need for sufficient, assured and predictable funding, as well as efficient management of the work of the secretariat of the Scientific Committee to arrange the annual sessions and coordinate the development of documents based on scientific reviews of the sources of ionizing radiation and its effects on human health and the environment,

Recognizing the increasing importance of the scientific work of the Scientific Committee and the need to carry out unforeseen additional work, such as after the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station,

Considering that the high quality of the work and the scientific rigour of the Scientific Committee need to be maintained in the future,

Recognizing the importance of disseminating the findings of the Scientific Committee, in particular to the public, and widely publicizing scientific knowledge about atomic radiation, and recalling in that context principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2]

Noting the need for the resources of the Scientific Committee to be sufficient, assured and predictable, and recognizing the importance of voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to support the work of the Committee,

Commending the secretariat of the Scientific Committee for its ongoing efforts to ensure the sustainable and effective work of the Committee, and encouraging all States in a position to do so to provide support to the secretariat of the Committee,

Recalling the support expressed by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Health Organization for the Scientific Committee's work in producing the most reliable and comprehensive sources of scientific information about the levels and effects of ionizing radiation, without which safety guidance and safety standards could not be developed and maintained and priorities for research in the areas of sources and effects of ionizing radiation could not be determined,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Cyprus, Czechia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Singapore, Slovakia and Thailand.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

Recognizing the importance of close cooperation between the Scientific Committee and other relevant international organizations,

Recognizing also that sufficient staffing of the secretariat is essential to support the work of the Scientific Committee,

Recognizing further the challenges faced by the Scientific Committee in undertaking its important work throughout the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Welcoming Algeria, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Norway and the United Arab Emirates as members of the Scientific Committee and their attendance at the sixty-ninth session of the Committee in May 2022,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution that it has been making since its inception to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of exposure to ionizing radiation and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgment;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee;

3. *Re-emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report will be able to reflect the latest developments and findings in the field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States;

4. *Commends* the Scientific Committee and secretariat for its ongoing efforts to fulfil its mandate throughout the COVID-19 pandemic;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Scientific Committee, takes note of the report on its sixty-ninth session,[3] including the update on the Committee's long-term strategic directions,[4] and encourages the Committee, over its coming sessions, to continue to work towards implementing strategies to support its long-term efforts to serve the scientific community, as well as wider audiences;

6. *Also notes with appreciation* the updated strategy to improve collection, analysis and dissemination of data on radiation exposure aimed at seeking widespread participation in the Scientific Committee's surveys and ensuring that future surveys adapt to changing data sources and use of radiation across the world;

7. *Welcomes* the continuation of the ad hoc working group on effects and mechanisms and the ad hoc working group on sources and exposure to assist the Scientific Committee in supporting and monitoring progress in the implementation of its programme of work, to evaluate new scientific developments relevant to the Committee, to implement the updated strategy for data collection and to work with the secretariat to continue the preparation of the future programme of work of the Committee for 2025 to 2029;

8. *Also welcomes* the publication of four substantive scientific reports adopted by the Scientific Committee during its sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions, on biological mechanisms relevant for the inference of cancer risk from low-dose and low-dose-rate radiation exposure, the levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station: implications of information published since the 2013 report of the Committee, the evaluation of medical exposure to ionizing radiation and the evaluation of occupational exposure to ionizing radiation;

9. *Continues to encourage* the secretariat of the Scientific Committee to disseminate the findings of the Committee's updated evaluation on the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station, released on 9 March 2021, in particular to the public;

10. *Notes* the progress of the ongoing evaluations on second primary cancer after radiotherapy, on epidemiological studies of radiation and cancer, on evaluation of public exposure due to ionizing radiation from natural and other sources and on evaluation of diseases of the circulatory system from radiation exposure;

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[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/77/46).

[4] Ibid., chap. II, sect. B.

11. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

12. *Supports* the Scientific Committee in continuing to conduct its programme of work of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly, in particular its global survey and evaluation of public exposure due to ionizing radiation from natural and other sources and its assessments of second primary cancer after radiotherapy, epidemiological studies of radiation and cancer, and evaluation of diseases of the circulatory system from radiation exposure, which are being conducted in close cooperation with other relevant organizations, and requests the Committee to submit plans for its ongoing and future programme of work to the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

13. *Requests* the secretariat to monitor the timely publication of approved reports and to strive to publish them within 12 months of their approval;

14. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports, and requests the secretariat to continue to facilitate such consultations;

15. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the levels and effects of ionizing radiation, and invites the Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

16. *Recalls* the strategy of the Scientific Committee to improve data collection, encourages in this regard Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about levels, effects and risks of radiation exposure from various sources, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Committee to the General Assembly, and encourages the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organization and other relevant organizations to further collaborate with the secretariat on arrangements for the collection, analysis and dissemination of data on radiation exposures of patients, workers and the public;

17. *Notes* the memorandum of understanding signed between the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Scientific Committee in May 2022 in Vienna, and the framework of cooperation signed between the World Health Organization and the Committee in September 2022 in Geneva;

18. *Welcomes* the use and ongoing development by the secretariat of an online platform for collecting data on the exposure of patients, workers and the public, and urges Member States to take part in the Scientific Committee's global survey of public exposure and to nominate national contact persons to facilitate coordination of the collection and submission of data on the exposure of patients, workers and the public within the country;

19. *Also welcomes* the Scientific Committee's outreach strategy for the period 2020–2024, in particular the enhancement of the website of the Committee and the planned publication of information for the general public in all the official languages of the United Nations, continues to encourage that consideration be given to publishing the website in all of those languages, and notes that the dissemination of the Committee's findings and further enhancements to the website would depend on the financial and human resources made available to the secretariat;

20. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue, within existing United Nations resources, to service the Scientific Committee and to disseminate its findings to Member States, the scientific community and the public and to ensure that the administrative measures in place are appropriate so that the secretariat is able to adequately and efficiently service the Committee in a predictable and sustainable manner;

21. *Encourages* the Scientific Committee to stand ready to carry out unplanned additional work, in strict compliance with its mandate, and in coordination with the International Atomic Energy Agency and other relevant international organizations, as appropriate, including in the context of military actions;

22. *Acknowledges* the Scientific Committee's ongoing and increasing concern with respect to the Committee's continued decline in regular budget funds allocated to engage expert consultants for performing the Committee's scientific evaluations, and notes that in the past 10 years, the annual budget allocated for consultants has decreased by about 50 per cent;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to strengthen support for the secretariat in order to adequately and efficiently provide service to the Scientific Committee in a predictable and sustainable manner, and to effectively facilitate the use of the invaluable expertise offered to the Committee by its members, and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on these issues;

24. *Understands* that the present extrabudgetary support is expected to expire by 2023 and the timely implementation of the programme of work to deliver on the mandate of the Committee would require the provision of additional professional and administrative secretariat services;

25. *Acknowledges* that contributions to the general trust fund by Member States (through funding support and mostly in-kind contributions of cost-free experts and technical officers) have augmented the regular budget;

26. *Encourages* Member States in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and also to make contributions in kind, in order to support the work of the Scientific Committee, and the dissemination of its findings, in a sustainable manner.

RESOLUTION 77/120

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/398, para. 12)[5]

77/120. Space and global health

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 66/71 of 9 December 2011, 69/85 of 5 December 2014, 70/1 of 25 September 2015, 71/90 of 6 December 2016, 73/91 of 7 December 2018 and 76/3 of 25 October 2021,

Recalling also the recommendations contained in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,[6] in which participating States called for action to improve public health services by expanding and coordinating space-based services for telemedicine and for controlling infectious diseases,

Recalling further the fiftieth anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50) and its thematic priority 5, on strengthened space cooperation for global health,

Acknowledging the importance of the contribution of space science and technology and their applications to efforts towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[7] in particular Sustainable Development Goal 3, on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages, and conscious that the work done in the space health sector can contribute to sustainable development, especially with programmes aimed at enhancing the quality of life in various ways, including improving human health,

Emphasizing that overarching objective 2 of the "Space2030" Agenda,[8] to harness the potential of space to solve everyday challenges and leverage space-related innovation to improve the quality of life, could be attained by strengthening space-related cooperation in support of global health, by improving the use and application of space medicine, science and technology, innovations in the global health domain, cooperation and the sharing of information, while protecting the privacy of personal data, and tools to improve research advancement and the timeliness and effectiveness of public health and health-care interventions, and by enhancing capacity-building in space medicine, science and technology,

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[5] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Working Group of the Whole on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

[6] *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19–30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1.

[7] Resolution 70/1.

[8] Resolution 76/3.

Convinced of the importance, and recognizing the existing contributions, of space science, space technology and space applications to enhance space life sciences and digital health technologies, such as telehealth, telemedicine[9] and tele-epidemiology, for the prevention and control of diseases and global health issues, the promotion of human health, environmental health, animal health and food sourcing and supply, and the advancement of medical research and health practices, including the provision of health-care services to individuals and communities irrespective of geographical location as a means of promoting equitable, affordable and universal access to health for all,

Noting with concern that among the gaps in the areas of telemedicine and telehealth are the limited uptake of digital technologies in public health systems and health care, as well as the lack of harmonized data-sharing standards among the various manufacturers of medical equipment,

Noting with satisfaction the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its subsidiary bodies and the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat in the area of space and global health, including in the framework of action team 6, on public health, established to implement the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, as well as the action team 6 follow-up initiative, the Expert Group on Space and Global Health, UNISPACE+50 thematic priority 5, on strengthened space cooperation for global health, and the Working Group on Space and Global Health of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee, and welcoming its report on the work conducted under its multi-year workplan,[10]

Deeply concerned about the devastating global effects of emerging infectious diseases and other emergencies with an impact on health, including the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, to the detriment of human life, society and development, and urging the international community to embrace a One Health approach by strengthening the role of space-based solutions, in particular telehealth, in monitoring, preparedness and response activities,

1. *Encourages* United Nations entities, intergovernmental organizations, Governments and the private sector to pursue effective coordination in all key space activities relevant to global health;

2. *Encourages* formalized cooperation between health authorities and space authorities at the domestic level, and welcomes existing cross-sectoral networks that foster the exchange of ideas between the space and health sectors;

3. *Encourages* Member States to establish a policy-enabled environment and governance mechanisms, with due consideration of legal and ethical issues, for removing challenges to facilitating the effective use of space-based technologies in support of global health, including telemedicine solutions and other emerging technologies;

4. *Also encourages* Member States to promote open data-sharing policies and participatory approaches to developing and improving access to all geospatial information relevant to global health, including remote sensing and Earth observation data, whenever possible;

5. *Further encourages* Member States to enable organizational and technical interoperability and promote research and innovation activities to facilitate the development and implementation of space-based science and technology in the health sector;

6. *Urges* United Nations entities and intergovernmental organizations to support the wider development of, equitable access to and application of space solutions for global health, public health, including epidemics and pandemics, emergencies that may have an impact on health, and the individual health needs of Member States, and encourages the implementation of a broader range of space solutions for sustainable development, including public-private partnerships;

7. *Encourages* Member States and participating entities to advance their efforts related to the geotagging of all assets relevant to health systems, including health information systems, and to make them available to further the attainment of health goals;

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[9] The term "telemedicine" is used broadly to refer to the use of telecommunications, satellite communications and information technology to provide clinical health care from a distance and includes many active and relevant subfields, such as tele-cardiology, tele-radiology, tele-ophthalmology, tele-oncology, tele-pharmacy, tele-surgery, tele-dermatology and other developing fields.

[10] A/AC.105/C.1/121.

8. *Encourages* Member States to recognize the relevance of access to the space environment and space analogues[11] for health and life sciences research and development, especially in the area of astronaut health, for social and economic benefits on Earth;

9. *Also encourages* Member States to actively promote international cooperation in the field of space medicine on the basis of equal opportunities for all interested participants and in the interests of the further exploration of outer space by humankind, and further scientific and technological development and applications in the interests of global health;

10. *Further encourages* Member States to conduct appropriate drills and exercises to benchmark their operational preparedness and response capacities and capabilities for the appropriate use of space technologies in responding to global health events;

11. *Welcomes* the establishment of a dedicated, cooperative, globally accessible, multifaceted platform based in Geneva to promote effective collaboration on space and global health issues among Member States, United Nations entities, other international organizations and relevant actors;

12. *Emphasizes* that all key activities, reference documents and plans relevant to space for global health carried out or prepared by United Nations entities should be monitored and compiled on an annual basis, including those of the World Health Organization, other international organizations and States members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, as well as, to the extent possible, non-governmental organizations and other non-governmental actors, and also emphasizes that the resulting annual compilation of activities should serve as a reference to identify and discuss gaps and opportunities and should be shared broadly in an effort to raise awareness and promote cooperation among relevant actors in this domain;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of analysing and assessing the roles and interests of current actors in the domain of space and global health, with the aim of promoting synergy, complementarity, cooperation and coordination among all actors;

14. *Emphasizes* the need to enhance, in an equitable and sustainable manner, intersectoral coordination and cooperation for effective international, regional, national and subnational capacity-building activities relevant to the application of space science and technology in the field of global health;

15. *Encourages* Member States to engage learning institutions and other capacity-building mechanisms in motivating young health professionals, at an early stage, to acquire space-related skills and abilities;

16. *Agrees* to promote capacity-building events, to be organized by United Nations entities and other relevant actors, with the objective of further promoting awareness of and engagement with regard to the important contribution of space science and technology among actors applying One Health approaches, with a view to increasing the number of organizations and other actors in the health domain that are actively engaged in using space science and technology;

17. *Requests* the Office for Outer Space Affairs to strengthen, within existing resources, capacity-building and networking in Africa, Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean, through regional technical cooperation projects, and to support field projects for strengthening collaboration between the space and global health sectors as an efficient strategy for making better use of space science and technology for access to global health for beneficiary States and taking better advantage of opportunities offered by bilateral or multilateral collaboration;

18. *Encourages* Member States to foster linkages between academia, national experts, telecommunications regulatory authorities and science and technology authorities with a view to improving access to and the use of digital technologies and information systems in health.

[11] Space analogues include parabolic flights, bed rest studies and expeditions to Antarctica and other isolated, confined and extreme environments that simulate the space environment on Earth.

RESOLUTION 77/121

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/398, para. 12)[12]

77/121. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006, 62/101 of 17 December 2007, 62/217 of 22 December 2007, 65/97 of 10 December 2010, 65/271 of 7 April 2011, 66/71 of 9 December 2011, 67/113 of 18 December 2012, 68/50 of 5 December 2013, 68/74 and 68/75 of 11 December 2013, 69/85 of 5 December 2014, 70/1 of 25 September 2015, 70/82 of 9 December 2015, 70/230 of 23 December 2015, 71/90 of 6 December 2016, 72/77 and 72/78 of 7 December 2017, 73/6 of 26 October 2018, 73/91 of 7 December 2018, 74/82 of 13 December 2019, 75/92 of 10 December 2020 and 76/76 of 9 December 2021,

Emphasizing the significant progress in the development of space science and technology and their applications that has enabled humans to explore the universe, and the extraordinary achievements made in space exploration efforts, including deepening the understanding of the planetary system and the Sun and the Earth itself, in the use of space science and technology for the benefit of all humankind and in the development of the international legal regime governing space activities,

Recognizing, in that regard, the unique platform at the global level for international cooperation in space activities represented by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee and assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of all humankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all humankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all Member States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of international law, including the relevant norms of international space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[13]

Recognizing that all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Deeply concerned about the fragility of the space environment and the challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in particular the impact of space debris, which is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in space,

Convinced that space science and technology and their applications, including satellite communications, Earth observation systems and satellite navigation technologies, provide indispensable tools for viable long-term solutions for sustainable development and can contribute more effectively to efforts to promote the development of all countries

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[12] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Working Group of the Whole on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

and regions of the world, and stressing in that regard the need to harness the benefits of space technology towards implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[14]

Seriously concerned about the devastating impact of disasters,[15] and desirous of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services and geospatial information for all countries and facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

Firmly convinced that the use of space science and technology and their applications in areas such as telehealth, tele-education, disaster management, environmental protection, natural resources management and ocean and climate monitoring contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, particularly poverty eradication,

Deeply concerned about the devastating effects of infectious diseases, including the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and Ebola virus disease, to the detriment of human life, society and development, and urging the international community to enhance the role of space-based solutions, in particular tele-epidemiology, in monitoring, preparedness and response activities,

Recalling the fact that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, recognized the important role that space science and technology play in promoting sustainable development,[16]

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its sixty-fifth session,[17]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its sixty-fifth session;

2. *Agrees* that the Committee, at its sixty-sixth session, should consider the substantive items recommended at its sixty-fifth session,[18] taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

3. *Notes* that, at its sixty-first session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work,[19] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 76/76;

4. *Agrees* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its sixty-second session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,[20] including holding intersessional consultations as necessary, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

5. *Urges* Member States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[21] to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their national law, as well as incorporating them into their national legislation;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* that the space law curriculum developed by the Office and published in all official languages of the United Nations could encourage further studies within Member States in cooperation with relevant entities in support of capacity-building efforts in space law and policy;

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[14] Resolution 70/1.

[15] The term "disasters" refers to natural or technological disasters.

[16] Resolution 66/288, annex, para. 274.

[17] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/77/20).

[18] Ibid., para. 428.

[19] Ibid., chap. II, sect. C; see also A/AC.105/1260.

[20] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/77/20), paras. 279–280.

[21] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 672, No. 9574); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 961, No. 13810); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1023, No. 15020); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1363, No. 23002).

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space on the work conducted under its multi-year workplan,[22] as finalized at the fifty-sixth session of the Legal Subcommittee, and notes that the report provides an important source of information and useful guidance for further joint undertakings by spacefaring nations and emerging space nations, as appropriate;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the establishment, under a five-year workplan, of the Working Group on Legal Aspects of Space Resource Activities of the Legal Subcommittee;

9. *Notes* that, at its fifty-ninth session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee continued its work,[23] as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 76/76;

10. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its sixtieth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee,[24] including holding intersessional consultations as necessary, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group on Space and Global Health on the work conducted under its multi-year workplan,[25] as finalized at the fifty-ninth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and notes that the report provides an important source of information and useful guidance for advancing the use of space science and technology for global health for spacefaring nations and emerging space nations, as appropriate;

12. *Notes with satisfaction* the establishment of the Space and Global Health Platform, based in Geneva, to promote effective collaboration on space and global health issues among Member States and United Nations system entities, in particular the World Health Organization and the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat, as well as international organizations and relevant actors, and welcomes the establishment of the Space and Global Health Network, whose work should be facilitated by the Office for Outer Space Affairs within existing resources;[26]

13. *Recalls with appreciation* that 10 October 2022 marked 55 years since the entry into force of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, as the cornerstone of international space law;

14. *Reiterates* the importance of information-sharing in discovering, monitoring and physically characterizing potentially hazardous near-Earth objects to ensure that all countries, in particular developing countries with limited capacity for predicting and mitigating a near-Earth object impact, are aware of potential threats, emphasizes the need for capacity-building for effective emergency response and disaster management in the event of a near-Earth object impact, and notes with satisfaction the work carried out by the International Asteroid Warning Network and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group to strengthen international cooperation to mitigate the potential threat posed by near-Earth objects, with the support of the Office, serving as the permanent secretariat of the Advisory Group;[27]

15. *Notes with satisfaction* the adoption by the Committee of the preamble and 21 Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, as contained in annex II to the report of the Committee on its sixty-second session,[28] and the establishment, under a five-year workplan, of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee, notes that the Committee encouraged States and international intergovernmental organizations to voluntarily take measures to ensure that the Guidelines were implemented to the greatest extent feasible and practicable, and emphasizes that the Committee serves as the principal forum for continued institutionalized dialogue on issues related to the implementation and review of the Guidelines;

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[22] A/AC.105/C.2/112.

[23] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/77/20), chap. II, sect. B; see also A/AC.105/1258.

[24] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/77/20), paras. 189–190.

[25] A/AC.105/C.1/121.

[26] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/77/20), para. 167.

[27] See A/AC.105/1138, paras. 205–210; see also A/AC.105/C.1/121.

[28] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/74/20).

16. *Notes with appreciation* that some Member States are already implementing space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space,[29] endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/217, and invites other States to implement, through relevant national mechanisms, the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

17. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of the gradually increasing probability of collisions of space objects, especially those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

18. *Urges* all Member States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

19. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, and agrees that the Committee should continue to consider the broader perspective of space security and associated matters that would be instrumental in ensuring the safe and responsible conduct of space activities, including ways to promote international, regional and interregional cooperation to that end;

20. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Office in promoting international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space for economic, social and scientific development, in particular for the benefit of developing countries;

21. *Notes with satisfaction* the programme of work undertaken by the Office in 2022 to strengthen international cooperation in the conduct of space activities for peaceful purposes and the use of space science and technology and their applications towards the achievement of the internationally agreed Sustainable Development Goals, including the workshops and symposiums conducted to build capacity, the assistance provided to developing countries, at their request, in the development of national space policy and legislation in conformity with international space law, and actions implemented to strengthen institutional capacity in space activities;

22. *Welcomes*, in that regard, the activities being carried out by the Office to promote gender equality and the increased role of women in space activities, including through targeted capacity-building and technical advisory activities, and efforts to encourage enhanced involvement of women and girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to those activities;

23. *Requests* the Office to continue to apprise the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and Legal Subcommittee, at their respective sessions in 2023, of the status of its capacity-building activities;

24. *Recognizes* the capacity-building activities under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, which provide unique benefits for Member States, in particular developing countries, participating in those activities;[30]

25. *Notes with satisfaction* the activities carried out under the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), and recognizes the significant achievements made and the advisory support provided to Member States within the framework of UN-SPIDER since its establishment in 2006[31] with the valuable contributions of its network of regional support offices, and encourages Member States, on a voluntary basis, to provide the programme with the additional resources necessary to address the increasing demand for support successfully and in a timely manner;

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[29] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/62/20), paras. 117–118, and annex.

[30] See A/AC.105/1240, sect. II.

[31] See resolution 61/110.

26. *Reiterates* the importance of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[32] in which the value of space-based technology and Earth observation for disaster management and emergency response is recognized, and notes with satisfaction the efforts of the Office and its UN-SPIDER programme towards promoting international cooperation as a way to enhance the use of space-based technologies and related services at the national and local levels in contributing to the implementation of the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

27. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuous progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems with the support of the Office, in its capacity as executive secretariat of the International Committee, towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries, and notes with appreciation that the International Committee held its sixteenth meeting in the United Arab Emirates from 9 to 14 October 2022;

28. *Notes with appreciation* that the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, namely, the African regional centres for space science and technology education in the French and English languages, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific, located in China, the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific, located in India, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Latin America and the Caribbean, with campuses located in Brazil and Mexico, and the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Western Asia, located in Jordan, have continued their education programmes in 2022, encourages the regional centres to continue to promote greater participation of women in their education programmes, and agrees that the regional centres should continue to report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on their activities;

29. *Notes* the continued work of the Russian Federation in the establishment of a centre for space science and technology education in the Eurasian region on the basis of Roscosmos Corporate Academy;

30. *Emphasizes* that regional and interregional cooperation in the field of space activities is essential to strengthen the peaceful uses of outer space, assist Member States in the development of their space capabilities and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to that end requests relevant regional organizations and their groups of experts to offer the assistance necessary so that countries can carry out the recommendations of regional conferences, and in that regard notes the importance of the equal participation of women in all fields of science and technology;

31. *Recognizes*, in that regard, the important role played by such organizations as the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization and the European Space Agency and by conferences and other mechanisms, such as the African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum and the Space Conference of the Americas, in strengthening regional and international cooperation among States;

32. *Recalls* the adoption of the African Space Policy and Strategy by the Assembly of the African Union at its twenty-sixth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2016, notes that this achievement marks the first step towards the realization of an African outer space programme within the framework of the African Union Agenda 2063, and notes with satisfaction in that regard the establishment of the African Space Agency, hosted by Egypt;

33. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including strengthening sustainable spatial data infrastructure at the regional and national levels and building resilience to reduce the consequences of disasters, in particular in developing countries;

34. *Reiterates* the need to promote the benefits of space technology and its applications in the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and related fields, and recognizes that the fundamental significance of space science and technology and their applications for global, regional, national and local sustainable development processes should be promoted in the formulation of policies and programmes of

[32] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

action and their implementation, including through efforts towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and summits and in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

35. *Encourages* Member States, to that end, to promote the inclusion in those conferences, summits and processes of the relevance of space science and technology applications and the use of space-derived geospatial data, and in general, space-based data and infrastructures, with the involvement of the Office;

36. *Encourages* the Office to take active part in those conferences, summits and processes and other activities in support of their objectives, as appropriate, and to conduct capacity-building activities, hold lectures and participate in academic and research activities to foster international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space;

37. *Urges* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), under the leadership of the Office, to continue to examine how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encourages entities of the United Nations system to participate, as appropriate, in UN-Space coordination efforts;

38. *Encourages* the Office to continue to conduct capacity-building and outreach activities associated with space security and transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities, as appropriate, and within the context of the long-term sustainability of outer space activities;

39. *Also encourages* the Office to continue to explore existing avenues and new opportunities to increase its capability to meet the growing demand for support to strengthen the capacity of countries, in particular developing countries, in using space science and technology and their applications and to inform the Committee of those efforts;

40. *Agrees* that the Office should pursue greater engagement with industry and private sector entities to further their support for and contributions to the overall work of the Office;[33]

41. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, institutions, industry and private sector entities and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund in support of the United Nations Programme on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to support the efforts of the Office to secure additional resources to facilitate the full implementation of its programme of work, including, where appropriate, the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the Office in carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities, in particular for developing countries;

42. *Urges* the African States, the Asia-Pacific States, the Eastern European States, the Latin American and Caribbean States and the Western European and other States to nominate their candidates for the offices of Chair of the Committee, Second Vice-Chair/Rapporteur of the Committee, Chair of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, First Vice-Chair of the Committee and Chair of the Legal Subcommittee, respectively, for the period 2024–2025, before the next session of the Committee, to be held in 2023;[34]

43. *Decides* that Guatemala and Uzbekistan shall become members of the Committee;[35]

44. *Endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant the status of observer to the Association for the Development of the Atlantic International Research Centre, the Access Space Alliance, the Hague Institute for Global Justice and the International Peace Alliance (Space), in accordance with the procedures of the Committee;[36]

45. *Encourages* the regional groups to promote active participation in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies by the States members of the Committee that are also members of the respective regional groups.

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[33] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/72/20), para. 326.

[34] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/77/20), para. 409.

[35] Ibid., paras. 410–411.

[36] Ibid., paras. 413–420.

RESOLUTION 77/122

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 157 to 5, with 4 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/399, para. 14)[37]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Guatemala, Papua New Guinea, Uruguay

77/122. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions, including its resolution 76/78 of 9 December 2021,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021,[38]

Taking note of the letter dated 15 June 2022 from the Chair of the Advisory Commission of the Agency addressed to the Commissioner-General,[39]

Underlining that, at a time of heightened conflict and instability in the Middle East, the Agency continues to play a vital role in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through the provision of, inter alia, essential education, health, relief and social services programmes and emergency assistance to a registered population of more than 5.7 million refugees whose situation is extremely precarious, in mitigating the consequences of alarming trends in the Agency's areas of operation, including increasing violence, marginalization and poverty and the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and in providing a crucial measure of stability in the region,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967 and 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions, recalling also Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968, stressing the necessity of an accelerated return of displaced persons, and calling for compliance with the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[40] on the return of displaced persons,

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[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[38] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/77/13).

[39] Ibid., pp. 7–8.

[40] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Deeply concerned about the extremely critical financial situation of the Agency, caused by the structural underfunding of the Agency, as well as by rising needs and expenditures resulting from the deterioration of the socioeconomic and humanitarian conditions and the conflicts and rising instability in the region and their significant negative impact on the ability of the Agency to deliver essential services to the Palestine refugees, including its emergency, recovery, reconstruction and development programmes in all fields of operation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[41] submitted pursuant to resolution 71/93 of 6 December 2016, and the request contained therein for broad consultations to explore all ways and means, including through voluntary and assessed contributions, to ensure that the Agency's funding is sufficient, predictable and sustained for the duration of its mandate, and considering the recommendations contained in the report,

Taking note also of the report of 31 May 2022 of the Commissioner-General, submitted pursuant to paragraph 57 of the report of the Secretary-General and in follow-up to the update to the special report of 3 August 2015 of the Commissioner-General,[42] submitted pursuant to paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution 302 (IV), regarding the severe financial crisis of the Agency and the negative implications for the continued delivery of core Agency programmes to the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation,

Expressing appreciation for the efforts of donors and host countries to respond to the Agency's unprecedented financial crisis, including through generous, additional contributions and, where possible, continued increases in voluntary contributions and agreements for multi-year funding, while acknowledging the steadfast support of all other donors to the Agency,

Welcoming the contributions made to the Agency's emergency appeals, including for the Gaza Strip and for the Syrian Arab Republic, and calling urgently upon the international community to continue its support, since needs persist and these appeals remain severely underfunded,

Noting that contributions have not been predictable enough or sufficient to meet growing needs and remedy the persistent shortfalls, thereby undermining the Agency's operations and efforts to promote human development and meet Palestine refugees' basic needs, and stressing the need for further efforts to comprehensively address the recurrent funding shortfalls affecting the Agency's operations,

Recognizing the Agency's extensive efforts to rapidly develop innovative and diversified ways to address its financial shortfall and mobilize resources, including through the expansion of the donor base and partnerships with United Nations entities, international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society, including through special digital campaigns,

Commending the Agency for the measures taken to address the financial crisis, despite difficult operational circumstances, including through the implementation of the medium-term strategy for 2016–2022 and various internal measures to contain expenditures, reduce operational and administrative costs, maximize the use of resources and reduce the funding shortfalls, and expressing profound concern that, despite such measures, the Agency's programme budget, which is funded primarily by voluntary contributions from Member States and intergovernmental organizations, faces persistent shortfalls that continue to threaten the delivery of the Agency's core programmes of assistance to the Palestine refugees,

Encouraging the Agency to sustain those reform efforts, while also taking all possible measures to protect and improve the quality of access to and the delivery of core programmes of assistance,

Recalling its resolution 65/272 of 18 April 2011, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to support the institutional strengthening of the Agency,

Stressing the need to support the Agency's capacity to uphold its mandate and to avert the serious humanitarian, political and security risks that would result from any interruption or suspension of its vital work,

Recognizing that the recurring and growing financial shortfalls directly affecting the sustainability of the Agency's operations need to be remedied by examining new funding modalities designed to put the Agency on a

[41] A/71/849.

[42] A/70/272, annex.

stable financial footing to enable it to effectively carry out its core programmes in accordance with its mandate and commensurate with humanitarian needs,

Welcoming the affirmation in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted by the General Assembly on 19 September 2016,[43] that, inter alia, the Agency, along with other relevant organizations, requires sufficient funding to be able to carry out its activities effectively and in a predictable manner,

Bearing in mind the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[44] including the pledge that no one will be left behind, emphasizing that the Sustainable Development Goals apply to all, including refugees, and commending the efforts of the Agency's programmes to promote 10 of the 17 Goals, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General,

Welcoming the joint efforts of host countries and donors to mobilize support for the Agency, including through extraordinary ministerial meetings, inter alia, the extraordinary ministerial conference held in Rome on 15 March 2018, the ministerial meeting convened at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 26 September 2019, the extraordinary virtual ministerial pledging conference convened on 23 June 2020 and the most recent ministerial meeting held on 22 September 2022, hosted by Jordan and Sweden, aimed at urgently addressing the Agency's funding shortfall and the need for predictable multi-year funding, expanding donor support for the Agency and reaffirming support for its mandate,

Recalling Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[45]

Recalling also the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[46]

Recalling further its resolutions 75/125 of 11 December 2020 on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and 75/127 of 11 December 2020 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, calling upon, inter alia, all States to ensure respect for and the protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, to respect the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises,

Affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[47] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

Aware of the continuing needs of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation, namely Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Gravely concerned about the extremely difficult socioeconomic conditions being faced by the Palestine refugees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly in the refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, as a result of the recurrent military operations, continuing prolonged Israeli closures, the construction of settlements and the wall, evictions, the demolition of homes and livelihood properties causing forced transfers of civilians, and the severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade, which have deepened unemployment and poverty rates among the refugees, with potentially lasting, long-term negative effects, while taking note of developments with regard to the situation of access there,

Concerned about plans and measures to interfere with or obstruct the operations of the Agency, including in East Jerusalem, contrary to international law and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, and reiterating the need for the Agency to fully implement its mandate in support of Palestine refugees without interference, including in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Commending the health-care staff of the Agency for their dedication in responding to the profound stresses caused to the health system by the high number of Palestinian civilian casualties in the recent period in the Gaza Strip,

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[43] Resolution 71/1.

[44] Resolution 70/1.

[45] Resolution 22 A (I).

[46] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

[47] Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.

Commending also the important role played by the Agency throughout its areas of operations to help to prevent and contain the spread of COVID-19,

Expressing grave concern in this regard about the lasting impact on the humanitarian and socioeconomic situation of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, including high rates of food insecurity, poverty, displacement and the depletion of coping capacities,

Recalling the temporary tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations in September 2014, and stressing the urgent need for the lifting of all Israeli closures and restrictions on the Gaza Strip,

Recalling also its resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009 and Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009, as well as the Agreement on Movement and Access of 15 November 2005,

Expressing concern about the continuing classroom shortage, including in the Gaza Strip, and the consequent negative impact on the right to education of refugee children,

Stressing the urgent need for the provision of the necessary humanitarian assistance and funding support for the advancement of reconstruction and recovery in the Gaza Strip, including by ensuring the timely facilitation of construction projects, including extensive shelter repair, and the need for the accelerated implementation of other urgent United Nations-led civilian reconstruction activities, and calling upon Israel to ensure the expedited and unimpeded import of all necessary construction materials into the Gaza Strip and to reduce the burdensome cost of importation of Agency supplies, while taking note of the continued implementation of the tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations,

Stressing also that the situation in the Gaza Strip is unsustainable and that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, including through the sustained and regular opening of crossing points, and must ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides,

Affirming the need to support the Palestinian Government in its assumption of full government responsibilities in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, in all fields, as well as through its presence at Gaza's crossing points,

Expressing deep concern at the critical situation of Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic and at the impact of the crisis on the Agency's installations and its ability to deliver its services, and regretting profoundly the loss of life and widespread displacement among refugees and the killing of staff members of the Agency in the crisis since 2012,

Emphasizing the continuing need for assistance to Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as those who have fled to neighbouring countries, including in particular Lebanon, where an unprecedent financial crisis is further affecting socioeconomic conditions among the refugees and exacerbating already high unemployment and poverty rates, and emphasizing the necessity of ensuring open borders for Palestine refugees fleeing the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and non-refoulement under international law, and recalling in this regard the statement by the President of the Security Council of 2 October 2013[48] and the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants,

Aware of the valuable work done by the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees, and recalling the need for the protection of all civilians in situations of armed conflict,

Deploring the endangerment of the safety of the Agency's staff and the damage and destruction caused to the facilities and properties of the Agency, and stressing the need to maintain the neutrality and safeguard the inviolability of United Nations premises, installations and equipment at all times,

Deploring also the breaches of the inviolability of United Nations premises, the failure to accord the property and assets of the Organization immunity from any form of interference, incursions or misuse, the failure to protect United Nations personnel, premises and property and any disruption caused to Agency operations by such violations,

Deploring further all attacks affecting United Nations installations, including Agency schools sheltering displaced civilians, and all other breaches of the inviolability of United Nations premises, including during the conflict

[48] S/PRST/2013/15; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

in the Gaza Strip in July and August 2014, as reported in the summary by the Secretary-General of the report of the Board of Inquiry[49] and by the independent commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-21/1,[50] and stressing the imperative of ensuring accountability,

Condemning the killing, injury and detention contrary to international law of Agency staff members,

Condemning also the killing, wounding and detention contrary to international law of refugee children and women,

Affirming the need for accountability and compensation to victims of violations of international law in accordance with international standards by all sides,

Deeply concerned about the continuing imposition of restrictions on the freedom of movement and access of the Agency's staff, vehicles and goods, and the injury, harassment and intimidation of the Agency's staff, which undermine and obstruct the work of the Agency, including its ability to provide essential basic and emergency services,

Recalling the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014[51] by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, including the call upon parties to facilitate the activities of the Agency, to guarantee its protection and to refrain from levying taxes and imposing undue financial burdens,

Aware of the agreement between the Agency and the Government of Israel,

Taking note of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[52]

1. *Reaffirms* that the effective functioning of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East remains essential in all fields of operation;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the Agency, as well as to all the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work, particularly in the light of the difficult conditions, instability and crises faced during the past year;

3. *Expresses special commendation* to the Agency for the essential role that it has played for more than seven decades since its establishment in providing vital services for the well-being, human development and protection of the Palestine refugees and the amelioration of their plight and for the stability of the region, and affirms the necessity for continuing the work of the Agency and its unimpeded operation and provision of services, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Commends* the Agency for its extraordinary efforts, in cooperation with other United Nations agencies on the ground, to provide emergency humanitarian assistance, including shelter, food and medical aid, to refugees and affected civilians during periods of crisis and conflict, and recognizes its exemplary capacity to mobilize in emergency situations while continuously carrying out its core human development programmes;

5. *Endorses* in this regard the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the Agency to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis, and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continued assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities, while reaffirming the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

6. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purpose;

7. *Expresses its grave concern* about attempts to discredit the Agency despite its proven operational capacity, record of effective provision of humanitarian and development assistance and consistent implementation of its

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[49] S/2015/286, annex.

[50] See A/HRC/29/52.

[51] A/69/711-S/2015/1, annex.

[52] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

mandate in accordance with relevant resolutions and its regulatory framework, even under the most difficult circumstances;

8. *Reaffirms* the Agency's important role in providing humanitarian and development assistance to Palestine refugees, engaging with international human rights mechanisms, as appropriate, and in doing so contributing to the protection and resilience of Palestinian civilians, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the Palestinian civilian population,[53] and contributing to regional stability;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* for the important support and cooperation provided by the host Governments to the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East[54] and the efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work;

12. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to all donor countries and organizations that have, inter alia, sustained, accelerated or increased their contributions to the Agency, helping to alleviate its recurrent financial crises, to mitigate imminent risks to its core and emergency programming and to prevent an interruption of essential assistance to Palestine refugees;

13. *Commends* the Agency for its strategic plan and the Commissioner-General for his continuing efforts to increase the budgetary transparency and efficiency of the Agency, as reflected in the Agency's proposed programme budget for 2023;[55]

14. *Also commends* the Agency for sustaining its robust internal reform efforts, despite difficult operational circumstances, and recognizes its implementation of maximum efficiency procedures to contain expenditures, reduce operational and administrative costs, reduce its funding shortfalls and maximize the use of resources;

15. *Calls upon* the Agency to further enhance its internal governance and oversight mechanisms to ensure that the Agency's management is delivering on its mandate with transparency and accountability, while preserving the Agency's agility and operational response capacity;

16. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein, including the proposal for an increased assessed contribution from the regular budget of the United Nations;

17. *Decides* to consider a gradual increase in the United Nations regular budget allocation to the Agency that would, in addition to covering international staff requirements, in accordance with resolution 3331 B (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, be utilizable to support expenses for operational costs related to executive and administrative management functions of the Agency, and invites the Secretary-General, accordingly, to submit proposals for consideration by the relevant committees at its seventy-eighth session;

18. *Appeals* to States and organizations for the maintenance of their voluntary contributions to the Agency, as well as an increase in contributions where possible, in particular to the Agency's programme budget, including in the consideration of their allocation of resources for international human rights, peace and stability, development and humanitarian efforts, to support the Agency's mandate and its ability to meet the rising needs of the Palestine refugees and essential associated costs of operations;

19. *Appeals* to States and organizations not currently contributing to the Agency to urgently consider making voluntary contributions in response to the calls of the Secretary-General for expansion of the Agency's donor base, in order to stabilize funding and ensure greater sharing of the financial burden of supporting the Agency's operations, in

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[53] A/ES-10/794.

[54] A/77/314.

[55] A/77/6 (Sect. 26).

accordance with the continuing responsibility of the international community as a whole to assist the Palestine refugees;

20. *Calls for* the provision by donors of early annual voluntary contributions, less earmarking, and multi-year funding, in line with the Grand Bargain on humanitarian financing announced at the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, in May 2016, in order to enhance the Agency's ability to plan and implement its operations with a greater degree of assurance regarding resource flows;

21. *Also calls for* the full and timely funding by donors of the Agency's emergency, recovery and reconstruction programmes as set out in its appeals and response plans;

22. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to continue efforts to maintain and increase traditional donor support and to enhance income from non-traditional donors, including through partnerships with public and private entities;

23. *Encourages* the Agency to explore financing avenues in relation to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;[56]

24. *Urges* States and organizations to actively pursue partnerships with and innovative support for the Agency, including as recommended in paragraphs 47, 48 and 50 of the report of the Secretary-General,[57] including through the establishment of endowments, trust funds or revolving fund mechanisms and assistance to the Agency to access humanitarian, development and peace and security trust funds and grants;

25. *Welcomes* pledges by States and organizations to provide diplomatic and technical support to the Agency, including engagement with international and financial development institutions, including the World Bank and the Islamic Development Bank, and, where appropriate, to facilitate support for the establishment of financing mechanisms that can provide assistance to refugees and in fragile contexts, including to meet the needs of the Palestine refugees, and calls for serious follow-up efforts;

26. *Urges* States and organizations to provide contributions to the waqf fund established by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation at the Islamic Development Bank in support of Palestine refugees through enhanced support to the Agency;

27. *Encourages* further progress with regard to the creation of a World Bank multi-donor trust fund;

28. *Requests* the Agency to continue to implement efficiency measures through its medium-term strategy and the development of a five-year proposal for stabilizing the Agency's finances, including specific and time-bound measures, and to continue to improve its cost-efficiency and resource mobilization efforts;

29. *Calls upon* the members of the Advisory Commission and the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to consider the relevant recommendations in the report of the Secretary-General, including to help the Agency to address resource mobilization challenges and to actively assist the Commissioner-General in the efforts to create sustainable, sufficient and predictable support for the Agency's operations;

30. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Secretary-General regarding the support provided to the Agency from the regular budget of the United Nations;

31. *Endorses* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as is practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are internally displaced and in serious need of continuing assistance as a result of recent crises in the Agency's fields of operation;

32. *Encourages* the Agency to provide increased assistance, in accordance with its mandate, to affected Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic as well as to those who have fled to neighbouring countries, as detailed in the Syrian regional crisis response plans, and calls upon donors to urgently ensure sustained support to the Agency in this regard in the light of the continuing grave deterioration of the situation and the growing needs of the refugees;

33. *Welcomes* the progress made thus far by the Agency in rebuilding the Nahr el-Bared refugee camp in northern Lebanon, and calls for donor funding to enable the expeditious completion of its reconstruction, for the

[56] See resolution 70/1.

[57] A/71/849.

continued provision of relief assistance to those displaced following its destruction in 2007 and for the alleviation of their ongoing suffering through the provision of the necessary support and financial assistance until the reconstruction of the camp is complete;

34. *Encourages* the Agency, in close cooperation with other relevant United Nations entities, to continue to make progress in addressing the needs, rights and protection of children, women and persons with disabilities in its operations, including through the provision of necessary psychosocial and humanitarian support, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[58] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[59] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[60]

35. *Also encourages* the Agency to continue to reduce the vulnerability and improve the self-reliance and resilience of Palestine refugees through its programmes;

36. *Recognizes* the acute protection needs of Palestine refugees across the region, and encourages the Agency's efforts to contribute to a coordinated and sustained response in accordance with international law, including the Agency's new protection strategic framework;

37. *Commends* the Agency for its humanitarian and psychosocial support programmes and other initiatives that provide recreational, cultural and educational activities for children in all fields, including in the Gaza Strip, recognizing their positive contribution, calls for full support for such initiatives by donor and host countries, and encourages the building and strengthening of partnerships to facilitate and enhance the provision of these services;

38. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

39. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations in order to ensure the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of its facilities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, at all times;

40. *Urges* the Government of Israel to expeditiously reimburse the Agency for all transit charges incurred and other financial losses sustained as a result of the delays and restrictions on movement and access imposed by Israel;

41. *Calls upon* Israel particularly to cease obstructing the movement and access of the staff, vehicles and supplies of the Agency and to cease levying taxes, extra fees and charges, which affect the Agency's operations detrimentally;

42. *Reiterates its call upon* Israel to fully lift the restrictions impeding or delaying the import of necessary construction materials and supplies for the reconstruction and repair of the remaining damaged or destroyed refugee shelters, and for the implementation of suspended and urgently needed civilian infrastructure projects in refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, noting the alarming figures reflected in the United Nations country team reports of 26 August 2016, entitled "Gaza: two years after", and of July 2017, entitled "Gaza ten years later";

43. *Notes with appreciation* the positive contribution of the Agency's microfinance and job creation programmes, encourages efforts to enhance the sustainability and benefits of microfinance services to a greater number of Palestine refugees, especially in view of the high unemployment rates affecting them, and youth in particular, welcomes the Agency's efforts to streamline costs and increase microfinance services through internal reform efforts, and calls upon the Agency, in close cooperation with the relevant agencies, to continue to contribute to the development of the economic and social stability of the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation;

44. *Reiterates its appeals* to all States, the specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue and to augment their contributions to the programme budget of the Agency, to increase their special allocations for grants and scholarships for higher education to Palestine refugees and to contribute to the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees, and requests the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships;

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[58] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[59] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[60] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

45. *Calls upon* the Commissioner-General to include, in the annual reporting to the General Assembly, assessments on the progress made to remedy the recurrent funding shortfalls of the Agency and ensure sustained, sufficient and predictable support for the Agency's operations, including through the implementation of the relevant provisions of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/123

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 157 to 1, with 10 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/399, para. 14)[61]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Cameroon, Canada, Guatemala, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, United States of America, Uruguay

77/123. Assistance to Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question, including resolution 76/77 of 9 December 2021,

Recalling also its resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, by which, inter alia, it established the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

Recalling further the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Aware of the fact that, for more than seven decades, the Palestine refugees have suffered from the loss of their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Affirming the imperative of resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees for the achievement of justice and for the achievement of lasting peace in the region,

Acknowledging the essential role that the Agency has played for more than seven decades since its establishment in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees through the provision of education, health, relief and social services and ongoing work in the areas of camp infrastructure, microfinance, protection and emergency assistance,

Acknowledging also the commitment of the Agency to operate in line with the humanitarian principles of neutrality, humanity, independence and impartiality,

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[61] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the Agency covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2021,[62]

Taking note also of the report of the Commissioner-General of 31 May 2022, submitted pursuant to paragraph 57 of the report of the Secretary-General,[63] and expressing concern regarding the severe financial crisis of the Agency and the negative implications for the continued delivery of core programmes to the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation,

Aware of the growing needs of the Palestine refugees throughout all the fields of operation, namely, Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Expressing grave concern at the especially difficult situation of the Palestine refugees under occupation, including with regard to their safety, well-being and socioeconomic living conditions,

Expressing grave concern in particular at the grave humanitarian situation and socioeconomic conditions of the Palestine refugees in the Gaza Strip, and underlining the importance of emergency and humanitarian assistance and urgent reconstruction efforts,

Noting the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements on 13 September 1993 by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[64] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected, and that, therefore, the situation of the Palestine refugees continues to be a matter of grave concern and the Palestine refugees continue to require assistance to meet basic health, education and living needs;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and reaffirms its request to the Conciliation Commission to continue exerting efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly on the efforts being exerted in this regard as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2023;

3. *Affirms* the necessity for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the importance of its unimpeded operation and its provision of services, including emergency assistance, for the well-being, protection and human development of the Palestine refugees and for the stability of the region, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Calls upon* all donors to continue to strengthen their efforts to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including with regard to increased expenditures and needs arising from conflicts and instability in the region and the serious socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and those needs mentioned in recent emergency, recovery and reconstruction appeals and plans for the Gaza Strip and in the regional crisis response plans to address the situation of Palestine refugees in the Syrian Arab Republic and those Palestine refugees who have fled to countries in the region;

5. *Commends* the Agency for its provision of vital assistance to the Palestine refugees and its role as a stabilizing factor in the region and the tireless efforts of the staff of the Agency in carrying out its mandate;

6. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Agency until 30 June 2026, without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III).

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[62] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/77/13).

[63] A/71/849.

[64] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

RESOLUTION 77/124

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 153 to 6, with 6 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/399, para. 14)[65]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Against: Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America
Abstaining: Brazil, Cameroon, Guatemala, Papua New Guinea, South Sudan, Togo

77/124. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to its resolution 76/79 of 9 December 2021,[66] as well as that of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022,[67]

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[68] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

Recalling in particular its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine refugees,

Noting the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[69] and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and a file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

Expressing its appreciation for the preservation and modernization of the existing records, including the land records, of the Conciliation Commission, and stressing the importance of such records for a just resolution of the plight of the Palestine refugees in conformity with resolution 194 (III),

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[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[66] A/77/281.

[67] A/77/259.

[68] Resolution 217 A (III).

[69] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes, Annex No. 11*, document A/5700.

Recalling that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[70] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of equity and justice;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues within the framework of the final status peace negotiations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/125

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 141 to 2, with 25 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/400, para. 14)[71]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Kiribati, Madagascar, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, South Sudan, Togo, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu

77/125. The occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[72]

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[70] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[72] A/77/501.

Deeply concerned that the Syrian Golan, occupied since 1967, has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling also its previous relevant resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 76/81 of 9 December 2021,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 76/81,[73]

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

Reaffirming once more the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

Reaffirming that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[74] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Welcoming the convening at Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on all tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan, and from its repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[73] A/77/520.

[74] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

RESOLUTION 77/126

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 141 to 7, with 21 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/400, para. 14)[75]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Hungary, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

Abstaining: Brazil, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Ecuador, Fiji, Guatemala, Haiti, Kenya, Kiribati, Madagascar, Malawi, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, South Sudan, Togo, Tuvalu, Uruguay, Vanuatu

77/126. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and the need to respect the obligations arising from the Charter and other instruments and rules of international law,

Reaffirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolution 76/82 of 9 December 2021, as well as those resolutions adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994 and 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016, and stressing the need for their implementation,

Recalling further the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[76]

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[77] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[78] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[79] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 1907, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[80] and relevant provisions

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[75] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Comoros, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

[76] Resolution 217 A (III).

[77] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[78] Ibid.

[79] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[80] Ibid., vol. 75, No. 973.

of customary law, including those codified in Additional Protocol I[81] to the four Geneva Conventions,[82] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including the occupied Syrian Golan,

Affirming that the transfer by the occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies constitutes a breach of the Fourth Geneva Convention,[83]

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[84] and recalling also General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Noting that the International Court of Justice concluded that "the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (including East Jerusalem) have been established in breach of international law",[85]

Taking note of the recent reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[86] as well as of other relevant recent reports of the Council,

Recalling the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,[87]

Recalling also the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[88] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Recalling further the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[89] and emphasizing specifically its call for a freeze on all settlement activity, including so-called natural growth, and the dismantlement of all settlement outposts erected since March 2001, and the need for Israel to uphold its obligations and commitments in this regard,

Recalling its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Noting the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

Aware that Israeli settlement activities involve, inter alia, the transfer of nationals of the occupying Power into the occupied territories, the confiscation of land, the forced transfer of Palestinian civilians, including Bedouin families, the exploitation of natural resources, the fragmentation of territory and other actions against the Palestinian civilian population and the civilian population in the occupied Syrian Golan that are contrary to international law,

Bearing in mind the extremely detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on the ongoing regional and international efforts to resume and advance the peace process, on the prospects for the achievement of peace in the Middle East in accordance with the two-State solution of Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security within recognized borders, on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, and on the viability and credibility of that solution,

Condemning settlement activities by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as violations of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions, the

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[81] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[82] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[83] Ibid., No. 973.

[84] See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

[85] Ibid., advisory opinion, para. 120.

[86] A/HRC/49/87; see also A/77/356.

[87] A/HRC/22/63.

[88] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[89] S/2003/529, annex.

agreements reached between the parties and obligations under the Quartet road map and as actions in defiance of the calls by the international community to cease all settlement activities,

Deploring in particular Israel's construction and expansion of settlements in and around occupied East Jerusalem, including its so-called E-1 plan that aims to connect its illegal settlements around and further isolate occupied East Jerusalem, the continuing demolition of Palestinian homes and eviction of Palestinian families from the city, the revocation of Palestinian residency rights in the city, and ongoing settlement activities in the Jordan Valley, all of which further fragment and undermine the contiguity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory,

Deploring the plans to demolish the Palestinian village of Khan al-Ahmar, in contravention of international law, which would have serious consequences with regard to the displacement of its residents, severely threaten the viability of the two-State solution and undermine the prospect of peace, given the area's sensitive location and importance for preserving the contiguity of the Palestinian territory, and demanding the cessation of such plans,

Condemning the demolition by Israel, in contravention of international law, of Palestinian buildings in the neighbourhood of Wadi al-Hummus in the village of Sur Bahir, south of occupied East Jerusalem, and of homes in Masafer Yatta, as well as other coercive measures potentially leading to the forced displacement and affecting over 1,200 Palestinian civilians,

Taking note of the Quartet report of 1 July 2016,[90] and stressing its recommendations, as well as its relevant statements in which the Quartet members concluded that, inter alia, the continuing policy of settlement construction and expansion, designation of land for exclusive Israeli use and denial of Palestinian development, including the recent high rate of demolitions, are steadily eroding the two-State solution,

Deploring the continuing unlawful construction by Israel of the wall inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and expressing its concern, in particular, about the route of the wall in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949 and in such a way as to include the great majority of the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and which is causing humanitarian hardship and a serious decline of socioeconomic conditions for the Palestinian people, is fragmenting the territorial contiguity of the Territory and undermining its viability, and could prejudge future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement,

Condemning acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides, and recalling the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Condemning also all acts of violence, destruction, harassment, provocation and incitement by Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their properties, including historic and religious sites, and agricultural lands, as well as acts of terror by several extremist Israeli settlers, and calling for accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated in this regard,

Taking note of the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, including pursuant to Security Council resolution 2334 (2016),[91]

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including the occupied Syrian Golan, and abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49, and comply with all of its obligations under international law and cease immediately all actions causing the alteration of the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Reiterates its demand* for the immediate and complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and calls in this regard for the full implementation of all the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including, inter alia, resolutions

[90] S/2016/595, annex.

[91] A/76/304, A/76/333, A/76/336 and A/77/493.

446 (1979), 452 (1979) of 20 July 1979, 465 (1980), 476 (1980), 478 (1980), 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and 2334 (2016);

4. *Stresses* that a complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities is essential for salvaging the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders;

5. *Also stresses* the urgent need to reverse negative trends on the ground, including the building of settlements and the demolition of Palestinian homes, which are imperilling the viability of the two-State solution and entrenching a situation of unequal rights and discrimination, and are preventing the Palestinian people from exercising their fundamental rights;

6. *Recalls* the affirmation by the Security Council, in its resolution 2334 (2016), that it will not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations;

7. *Stresses* that the occupation of a territory is to be a temporary, de facto situation, whereby the occupying Power can neither claim possession nor exert its sovereignty over the territory it occupies, recalls in this regard the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of land by force and therefore the illegality of the annexation of any part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes a breach of international law, undermines the viability of the two-State solution and challenges the prospects for a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement, and expresses its grave concern at recent statements calling for the annexation by Israel of areas in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

8. *Condemns* in this regard settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan and any activities involving the confiscation of land, the disruption of the livelihood of protected persons, the forced transfer of civilians and the annexation of land, whether de facto or through national legislation;

9. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice;

10. *Reiterates its call for* the prevention of all acts of violence, destruction, harassment and provocation by Israeli settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians and their properties, including historic and religious sites and including in Occupied East Jerusalem, and their agricultural lands;

11. *Calls for* accountability for the illegal actions perpetrated by Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, stresses in this regard the need for the implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994), in which the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including the confiscation of arms, aimed at preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory, recalls in this regard the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the Palestinian civilian population,[92] and welcomes the Secretary-General's observations, including with respect to the expansion of existing protection mechanisms to prevent and deter violations;

12. *Stresses* the responsibility of Israel, the occupying Power, to investigate all acts of settler violence against Palestinian civilians and their properties and to ensure accountability for these acts and end prevailing impunity in this regard;

13. *Calls upon* all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies that ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlement activities;

14. *Calls for* measures of accountability, consistent with international law, in the light of continued non-compliance with the demands for a complete and immediate cessation of all settlement activities, which are illegal under international law, constitute an obstacle to peace and threaten to make a two-State solution impossible, stressing that compliance with and respect for international humanitarian law and international human rights law is a cornerstone for peace and security in the region;

[92] A/ES-10/794.

15. *Recalls*, in this regard, the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014[93] by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, welcomes in this regard initiatives by States parties, both individually and collectively, in accordance with article 1 of the Convention, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention and accountability, and calls upon all High Contracting Parties to the Convention to continue, individually and collectively, to exert all efforts to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

16. *Also recalls* that the Security Council, in its resolution 2334 (2016), called upon all States to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967;

17. *Calls upon* all States, consistent with their obligations under international law and the relevant resolutions, not to recognize, and not to render aid or assistance in maintaining, the situation created by measures that are illegal under international law, including those aimed at advancing annexation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

18. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies to take all necessary measures and actions within their mandates to ensure full respect for and compliance with Human Rights Council resolution 17/4 of 16 June 2011,[94] concerning the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights[95] and other relevant international laws and standards, and to ensure the implementation of the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework, which provides a global standard for upholding human rights in relation to business activities that are connected with Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Israeli practices and settlement activities affecting the rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories".

RESOLUTION 77/127

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/402, para. 8)[96]

77/127. Comprehensive review of special political missions

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 67/123 of 18 December 2012, and its subsequent resolutions on the comprehensive review of special political missions, including resolution 76/83 of 9 December 2021,

Reaffirming its commitment to respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States,

Recalling the primary role of the United Nations and the respective roles and authority of the General Assembly and the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter, and

[93] A/69/711-S/2015/1, annex.

[94] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[95] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[96] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

recalling also in this context the contribution of regional and subregional arrangements and the important role they can play, as appropriate,

Recalling also the adoption by the General Assembly and the Security Council of substantively identical resolutions 70/262 and 2282 (2016) of 27 April 2016, further recalling the adoption of resolutions 72/276 and 2413 (2018) of 26 April 2018 on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and recognizing in this regard the important role played by special political missions in the area of sustaining peace, as a goal and a process, where mandated, as well as resolutions 75/201 and 2558 (2020) of 21 December 2020 on the third review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture,

Recognizing the important role of the special political missions as a flexible tool for the maintenance of international peace and security, including through contributions to a comprehensive approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace,

Reaffirming its resolution 75/1 of 21 September 2020 on the declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, in which it called for the diplomatic toolbox of the Charter to be used to its full potential, including preventive diplomacy and mediation,

Noting the proposal of the Secretary-General on the development of a new agenda for peace, and recalling in this regard its resolution 76/6 of 15 November 2021 on the follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Our Common Agenda",

Stressing that actions by the United Nations should support and complement, as appropriate, the conflict prevention roles of national Governments,

Encouraging enhanced exchanges of information, in an appropriate manner, among the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat, making use of the advisory role of the Peacebuilding Commission, when relevant, on overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions,

Reaffirming the principles of impartiality, consent of the parties, national ownership and national responsibility, and stressing the significance of the views of and dialogue with countries hosting special political missions,

Recalling the relevant reports on the review of arrangements for funding and backstopping special political missions,[97] which addressed the financial and administrative arrangements pertaining to such missions, recognizing that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters,

Recalling also its resolution 76/305 of 8 September 2022, and recognizing in this regard the importance of adequately resourcing the peacebuilding components of relevant special political missions, including during mission transitions and drawdown, to support the stability and continuity of peacebuilding activities,

Stressing the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the pacific settlement of disputes, including mediation, conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacebuilding and sustaining peace, for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Acknowledging the significant increase in the number and complexity of special political missions and the challenges faced by them,

Underlining the need for system-wide coherence between special political missions and the United Nations system, and emphasizing the importance of close cooperation between special political missions, peacekeeping operations and United Nations country teams for maintaining sustainable peace, conflict prevention and conflict resolution,

Recognizing the need for special political missions to operate under clear, credible and achievable mandates, including through the articulation of their goals and purposes, and the need to review their progress as stipulated in their respective mandates,

Stressing the need for, as relevant, enhanced coordination and cooperation between special political missions and concerned regional and subregional organizations, particularly leveraging ongoing strategic partnerships, to take

[97] A/66/340 and A/66/7/Add.21.

concrete measures to strengthen mechanisms for conflict prevention, management and resolution, and emphasizing the need to build and strengthen human and institutional capacities at the national, subregional and regional levels,

Recognizing the importance of efforts towards improving broad geographical representation, gender balance and expertise in the composition of all special political missions, and acknowledging the necessity of reducing the overall environmental footprint of relevant special political missions and, where mandated, identifying climate-related risks,

Recalling the relevant resolutions on women, peace and security, reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and stressing the need for the full, equal and meaningful participation of women at all levels, at all stages and in all aspects of the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and conflict resolution,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions on youth, peace and security, and affirming the important role that youth can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and as a key aspect of the sustainability, inclusiveness and success of peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts,

Noting that the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Peace Operations of the Secretariat have a single, regional political-operational structure shared between both Departments, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 72/262 C of 5 July 2018,

Stressing that the United Nations should ensure a more coordinated approach to strengthen the ability of special political missions to deliver on their mandates and should contribute to ensuring enhanced accountability, coherence and effectiveness of special political missions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 76/83;[98]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to hold regular, inclusive and interactive dialogue on the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, and requests the Secretariat to reach out to Member States prior to the holding of such dialogue to ensure wide and meaningful participation;

3. *Respects* the purview of the mandate of special political missions, as stipulated in the respective relevant resolutions, recognizes the specificity of each mandate of such missions, and emphasizes the role of the General Assembly in discussing the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions;

4. *Acknowledges* the importance of strong coordination, coherence and cooperation of the Security Council and the General Assembly with the Peacebuilding Commission, and in this regard encourages the Security Council to continue to regularly request, deliberate and draw upon the specific, strategic and targeted advice of the Commission, including to assist with the longer-term perspective required for sustaining peace being reflected in the formation, review and drawdown of peacekeeping operations and special political missions mandates, in line with General Assembly resolution 70/262 and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016);

5. *Encourages* special political missions to continue fostering inclusive partnerships with regional and subregional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate and in line with respective mandates, to address multidimensional challenges to peace and security, including during transitions;

6. *Also encourages* special political missions, where consistent with their mandates, to work closely with the United Nations country teams, as well as relevant partners, to ensure coherence and coordination, including in support of efforts of host countries to implement comprehensive responses to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as appropriate;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-eighth session, a timely report on the implementation of the present resolution regarding the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, including efforts towards improving expertise and effectiveness, transparency, accountability, geographical representation, gender perspective and the equal participation of women, as well as youth participation, and in this regard also requests the Secretary-General to include relevant detailed information on these matters in the report;

[98] A/77/283.

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in the aforementioned report information on the impact of the reforms on the implementation of the mandates of the special political missions, including regarding transparency and accountability;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of special political missions" and to consider the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General under that item.

RESOLUTIONS 77/128 A and B

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/403, para. 9)[99]

77/128. Questions relating to information

A
Information in the service of humanity

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[100]

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General,[101]

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

(a) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communications infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communications policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(b) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(c) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(d) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communications capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communications technology in developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

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[99] The draft resolutions recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee were submitted by the Committee on Information.

[100] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/77/21).

[101] A/77/280.

(e) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communications systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communications technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) Facilitation, as appropriate, of access by developing countries on mutually agreed terms to advanced communications technology available on the open market;

(f) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

B
United Nations global communications policies and activities

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing that the Committee on Information is its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat,

Reaffirming its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, by which the General Assembly established the Department of Public Information (now the Department of Global Communications), with a view to promoting to the greatest possible extent an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among the peoples of the world, and all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly related to the activities of the Department,

Emphasizing that the contents of public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations and that a culture of communications and transparency should permeate all levels of the Organization as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to create broad-based global support for the United Nations,

Stressing that the primary mission of the Department of Global Communications is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive, balanced, timely, relevant and multilingual information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency, and in this regard reaffirming the crucial role of the Department in times of crisis such as the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Recalling its resolutions 76/84 A and B of 9 December 2021, which provided an opportunity to take due steps to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department of Global Communications and to maximize the use of its resources,

Expressing its concern that the gap in information and communications technology between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that vast segments of the population in developing countries are not benefiting from the information and communications technologies that are currently available, and in this regard underlining the necessity of rectifying the imbalances in the present development of and access on mutually agreed terms to information and communications technologies in order to create a more just, equitable, accessible and effective environment in this regard,

Recognizing that developments in information and communications technologies open vast new opportunities for economic growth and social development and can play an important role in the eradication of poverty in

developing countries, and at the same time emphasizing that the development of these technologies poses challenges and risks and could lead to further rising inequalities within and among countries,

Encouraging States, international and regional organizations, national human rights institutions and civil society, business enterprises, including media, online platforms, social media and technology companies, to foster respect for human rights online and offline in the context of new and emerging digital technologies and human rights due diligence processes,

Expressing serious concern at attacks and violence against journalists and media workers and associated personnel, and bearing in mind that impunity for attacks against journalists remains one of the greatest challenges to the safety of journalists and that ensuring accountability for crimes committed against journalists is a key element in preventing future attacks,

Expressing concern about the spread of disinformation, including as a means of information manipulation, including on the Internet, which can be designed and implemented so as to mislead, to violate human rights, including the right to privacy and to freedom of expression, and to incite violence, hatred, discrimination or hostility, and emphasizing the important contribution of journalists and media workers in countering this trend, and further expressing grave concern about information manipulation, including disinformation, by States, aimed at attempting to justify, provoke or encourage any threat to peace,

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression on disinformation and freedom of opinion and expression,[102]

Highlighting the global concerns about the rapid spread and proliferation of disinformation and misinformation, thereby increasing the importance of disseminating factual, timely, clear, accessible, multilingual and evidence-based information, and emphasizing the need for all relevant stakeholders to address the challenge of disinformation,

Stressing that responses to the spread of information manipulation, including disinformation, must comply with international human rights law and the principles of legality, necessity and proportionality, and underlining the importance in this effort of free, independent, plural and diverse media and of providing and promoting access to independent, factual and evidence-based information,

Welcoming the submission of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Our Common Agenda"[103] as a basis for continued consideration by Member States, in collaboration with all relevant partners through broad and inclusive consultations,

Welcoming in particular the Secretary-General's resolve to address disinformation and misinformation, and recalling his proposal for a global code of conduct that promotes integrity in public information,

Reaffirming its resolution 75/267, adopted without a vote on 25 March 2021, by which it proclaimed 24 to 31 October of each year as Global Media and Information Literacy Week,

Recognizing that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, contributes to the achievement of the goals of the United Nations, as set out in Article 1 of the Charter, and reaffirming the crucial role of the Department of Global Communications in effectively upholding and prioritizing multilingualism in all circumstances,

Bearing in mind that multilingualism is an enabler of multilateral diplomacy and that it contributes to the promotion of the values of the United Nations, as well as the faith of our peoples in the purposes and principles enshrined in its Charter,

Recalling its resolution 73/346 of 16 September 2019 on multilingualism, in which it reaffirmed the role of the Department of Global Communications in multilingualism, notably the provisions related to the appropriate use of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department, including in coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, as well as the importance of ensuring the full and equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department,

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[102] A/HRC/47/25.

[103] A/75/982.

I
Introduction

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in respect of the global communications policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in relevant resolutions;

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations remains the indispensable foundation of a peaceful and just world and that its voice must be heard in a clear and effective manner, and emphasizes the essential role of the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat in this context;

3. *Underlines* that the reform of the Department of Global Communications with a view to adapting its capacity and work to the current trends of global communication should take into account the priorities set out by the Committee on Information as the main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations relating to the work of the Department, and also underlines in that regard the importance of continuing the process of consultation with Member States;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to promote and facilitate international cooperation aimed at the development of media, information and communication facilities and technologies in all countries, with a particular focus on capacity-building of developing countries;

5. *Reiterates its concerns* about the exponential spread and proliferation of disinformation and misinformation, thereby increasing the need for the dissemination of factual, timely, targeted, clear, accessible, multilingual and science-based information, and emphasizes the need for all Member States to stand together to address the challenge of disinformation and misinformation, including on the Internet;

6. *Re-emphasizes* the importance of ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of opinion and expression, freedom of the press, as well as the right to privacy, and also recognizes the importance of the promotion and protection of the safety of journalists in this regard;

7. *Condemns unequivocally* all attacks, reprisals and violence against journalists and media workers such as torture, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrest, arbitrary detention and expulsion, as well as intimidation, threats and harassment, online and offline, including through attacks on, or the forced closure of, their offices and media outlets, in both conflict and non-conflict situations;

8. *Stresses* the importance of the full respect for the right to seek, receive and impart information, as included in the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and in this regard for the freedom of journalists to have access to information and the right of the general public to receive media output, and that the safety of journalists and media workers is indispensable to ensuring these rights;

9. *Emphasizes* that all forms of disinformation can negatively impact the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals;

10. *Reiterates its condemnation* of all forms of propaganda, in whatsoever country conducted, which is either designed or likely to provoke or encourage any threat to peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression, as well as its request to the Government of each Member to take appropriate steps, within its constitutional limits, to promote, by all means of publicity, friendly relations among nations based upon the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

11. *Affirms* the important role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information plays in strengthening democracy, promoting pluralism and multiculturalism, enhancing transparency and press freedom, and countering disinformation;

12. *Condemns unequivocally* measures taken by States in violation of international human rights law aiming to or that intentionally prevent or disrupt access to or the dissemination of information online and offline, aiming to undermine the work of journalists in informing the public, including through practices such as Internet shutdowns or measures to unduly restrict, block or take down media websites, such as denial of service attacks, and calls upon all States to cease and refrain from these measures, which cause irreparable harm to efforts at building inclusive and peaceful knowledge societies and democracies;

13. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of clear, timely, accurate and comprehensive information by the Secretariat to Member States, upon their request, within the framework of existing mandates and procedures;

14. *Also stresses* that Member States should abstain from using information and communications technologies in contravention of international law, including the Charter, and encourages Member States to consider better ways to cooperate, consistent with international law, in addressing threats posed by the use of information and communications technologies for terrorist purposes;

15. *Calls upon* States to refrain from providing support to entities or persons involved in terrorist acts, including support in establishing propaganda platforms advocating hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, including through the Internet and other media, and emphasizes in this regard the key importance of full respect for the right to freedom of opinion and expression as set out in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[104]

16. *Reaffirms* the central role of the Committee on Information in United Nations global communications policies and activities, including the prioritization of those activities, and decides that recommendations relating to the programme of the Department of Global Communications shall originate, to the extent possible, in the Committee and shall be considered by the Committee;

17. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications, following the priorities for the period 2023–2024 set out by the General Assembly in its resolution 76/84 B, to pay particular attention to the promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Assembly and recent United Nations conferences, the maintenance of international peace and security, including peacekeeping operations, the development of Africa, the promotion of human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, climate change and the environment, the effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts, the defence of multilateralism, the promotion of justice and international law, disarmament, the fight against disinformation and misinformation, drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and global efforts to combat and sustainably recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, including through global equitable access to and distribution of safe and effective vaccines;

18. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications and its network of United Nations information centres to pay particular attention to the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences, forums and summits and the progress in implementing their outcomes;

19. *Notes* the contribution of the Department of Global Communications to the preparatory process for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration,[105] in line with the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants;[106]

II
General activities of the Department of Global Communications

20. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Global Communications;[107]

21. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications to ensure, through recruitment and training, that its workforce reflects equitable geographical distribution, is diverse from a multilingual perspective and has the language skills necessary to effectively carry out its duties;

22. *Also requests* the Department of Global Communications to maintain its commitment to a culture of evaluation and to continue to evaluate its products and activities with the objective of enhancing their effectiveness, and to continue to cooperate and coordinate with Member States and the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat to ensure transparency and accountability of its operations in a more effective manner;

23. *Recalls* the launch of the 2020 global communications strategy for the United Nations developed in all official languages by the Department of Global Communications that is aimed not only at informing people about the state of the world and how the United Nations works to make it better, but also at motivating and empowering people

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[104] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[105] Resolution 73/195, annex.

[106] Resolution 71/1.

[107] A/AC.198/2022/2, A/AC.198/2022/3 and A/AC.198/2022/4.

to take action, and commends the Department for its role in promoting the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development through the coverage of the three priority themes presented in the strategy, preventing and tackling further risks of emergence and transmission of zoonotic diseases and supporting the Secretary-General's transformative agenda;

24. *Supports and encourages* coordination between the Department of Global Communications and the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure consistency in the messages of the Organization, and in this regard welcomes the coverage by the Department of the measures, actions and declarations by the Secretary-General related to the COVID-19 pandemic;

25. *Calls for* intensified cooperation with the United Nations system for the effective dissemination of scientific knowledge, best practices and information regarding, inter alia, diagnostics, drugs, COVID-19 vaccines, and relevant guidelines, to prevent and respond to the emergence of diseases, including zoonotic infections, and pandemics, including through promoting a One Health approach;

26. *Urges* the Department of Global Communications to support, as appropriate, the efforts of the United Nations system, as well as United Nations country teams, to highlight the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women, children, including girls, and particularly older persons, and people in vulnerable situations;

27. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Global Communications to ensure its business continuity during the COVID-19 pandemic, and requests the Department to assess its response to the pandemic, including the impact on income-generating activities, and its overall readiness to meet the Organization's communication needs for any future global emergencies that may occur, and in this regard welcomes the crisis response initiative launched by the Department during the pandemic;

28. *Recalls* its resolution 74/306 of 11 September 2020, in which it recognized the role of extensive immunization against COVID-19 as a global public good for health in preventing, containing and stopping transmission in order to bring the pandemic to an end, and welcomes the initiatives by the Department of Global Communications in highlighting the importance of global equitable distribution of and access to quality, safe, efficacious and affordable COVID-19 vaccines, including through the #OnlyTogether campaign to help in the call for scaling up manufacture and production, increasing funding and making COVID-19 vaccines available for all;

29. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Department of Global Communications to highlight the contributions by Member States and international organizations to the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A), including the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility, although recognizing that these mechanisms could be strengthened, and the continued delivery of safe and effective vaccines on all continents as a manifestation of international solidarity, and urges the Department to also highlight the contributions of and effectively promote the initiatives by Member States, international organizations and vaccine producers to make COVID-19 vaccines available to those that need them most, especially to developing countries and people in vulnerable situations, including by supporting local and regional production of vaccines and the further strengthening of health systems;

30. *Notes* the efforts of the Department of Global Communications to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, and requests the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

31. *Encourages* continued collaboration between the Department of Global Communications and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of culture and in the fields of education, the advancement of communication and multilingualism, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 73/346, including through multilingual education, as vehicles for sustainable development using existing resources and bridging the existing gap between the developed and the developing countries;

32. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Global Communications to work at the local level with other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to enhance the coordination of their communications activities, urges the Department to encourage the United Nations Communications Group to promote linguistic diversity in its work, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session on progress achieved in this regard;

33. *Encourages* the Department of Global Communications to continue to engage and collaborate with regional and other organizations in its efforts to promote greater awareness and understanding of the work of the

United Nations, with a particular focus on the current partnerships between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations;

34. *Reaffirms* that the Department of Global Communications must prioritize its work programme, while respecting existing mandates and in line with regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[108] to focus its message and better concentrate its efforts and to match its programmes with the needs of its target audiences, including the linguistic dimension, on the basis of improved feedback and evaluation mechanisms;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations website, the United Nations News Service and United Nations social media accounts, contain comprehensive, balanced, objective and equitable information in all official languages about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

36. *Underlines* the critical need to address violations of the relevant international rules and regulations that govern the area of broadcasting, including television, radio and satellite broadcasting, in the most appropriate manner;

37. *Reiterates its request* to the Department of Global Communications and content-providing offices of the Secretariat to ensure that United Nations publications are produced in all six official languages, as well as in an environmentally friendly and cost-neutral manner, and to continue to coordinate closely with all other entities, including all other departments of the Secretariat and funds and programmes of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, in order to avoid duplication in the issuance of United Nations publications;

38. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Department of Global Communications and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to develop new collaborative arrangements to enhance multilingualism in other outputs in a cost-neutral manner, bearing in mind the importance of ensuring the full and equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session;

39. *Emphasizes* that the Department of Global Communications should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, and that the activities of the Department should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

40. *Reiterates its growing concern* that the issuance of daily press releases has not been expanded to all official languages, as requested in previous resolutions and in full respect of the principle of parity of all six official languages, recalls the relevant report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Global Communications,[109] and reiterates its request that the Department, as a matter of priority, proactively explore options for delivering daily press releases in all six official languages, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, at the latest by the forty-fifth session of the Committee on Information, and report thereon to the Committee at that session;

41. *Notes with concern* the recent trends that contribute to undermining credible, transparent and fact-based information, and encourages the Department of Global Communications to continue to promote unbiased and impartial information about the work of the United Nations, to identify specific proposals in this regard and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session;

42. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Department of Global Communications in sharing accurate, timely, relevant and multilingual information about the COVID-19 pandemic and the United Nations system response to it, and in helping to counter the proliferation of disinformation and misinformation in this regard, as reflected in the United Nations COVID-19 communications response initiative, in particular the Verified campaign announced by the Secretary-General in April 2020, and reiterates the need to address disinformation and misinformation, to counter vaccine hesitancy and to launch public information campaigns capitalizing, inter alia, on the power of social media, to sensitize people on the importance, effectiveness and safety of COVID-19 vaccines;

[108] ST/SGB/2018/3.

[109] A/AC.198/2022/3.

43. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications to make specific efforts aimed at identifying and raising awareness about misinformation and disinformation, based on information and best practices shared by States, United Nations entities, civil society and the private sector, and to propose ways to address such a challenge in accordance with international human rights law, within existing resources;

44. *Urges* the Department of Global Communications to support the efforts of the United Nations system to eradicate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination, including based on religion or belief, harassment, racism, hate speech, xenophobia and related intolerance, particularly in the response to the global crisis emanating from pandemics such as COVID-19, and notes with concern the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the existing inequalities within our societies and regrets that, in that context, persons belonging to racial and ethnic minorities and to other groups, including Asians and people of Asian descent, especially women and girls, have been victims of racist violence, threats of violence, discrimination and stigmatization;

45. *Takes note* of the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech, and of the United Nations Guidance Note on Addressing and Countering COVID-19-related Hate Speech, and encourages the Department of Global Communications to establish and further strengthen partnerships with new and traditional media to address hate speech narratives and to promote tolerance, non-discrimination, pluralism and freedom of opinion and expression;

Multilingualism and global communications

46. *Emphasizes* that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, entails the active involvement and commitment of all stakeholders, including all United Nations duty stations and offices away from Headquarters;

47. *Underlines* the responsibility of the Secretariat in the mainstreaming of multilingualism into all of its communication and information activities, within existing resources on an equitable basis, calls upon the Department of Global Communications to consider it as an integral part of its strategic approach and to continue to work with the Coordinator for Multilingualism on best practices throughout the Secretariat to fulfil this responsibility, and requests the Secretary-General to report on such best practices and their implementation in his upcoming report to the Committee on Information, bearing in mind the provisions of resolution 73/346;

48. *Emphasizes* the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations, ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of all divisions and offices of the Department of Global Communications with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, in this regard reaffirms its request that the Secretary-General ensure that the Department has the necessary capacity in all the official languages to undertake all of its activities, and requests that this aspect be included in future programme budget proposals for the Department, bearing in mind the principle of parity of all six official languages, while respecting the workload in each official language;

49. *Expresses appreciation* for the efforts of the Department of Global Communications in highlighting some recent important communications and messages of the Secretary-General in non-official languages, such as Portuguese, Hindi, Kiswahili, Persian, Bangla and Urdu, in addition to official languages, and in order to promote multilingualism, and encourages the Department to disseminate them in all six official languages, as well as in non-official languages whenever appropriate, within existing resources;

50. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Global Communications to enhance multilingualism in all of its activities, stresses the importance of ensuring that the texts of all new public United Nations documents in all six official languages, information materials, global promotional campaigns and all older United Nations documents are made available through the United Nations websites and are accessible to Member States without delay, and further stresses the importance of fully implementing resolution 73/346 and subsequent resolutions on multilingualism;

51. *Encourages* the Department of Global Communications to build upon its efforts to implement multilingual policies during the COVID-19 pandemic, and requests the Secretariat to restore the dissemination of information in the six official languages, as appropriate, on the activities and decisions of the main organs of the Organization, and its subsidiary bodies, including resolutions on COVID-19, while the limitations on holding large in-person meetings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic persist;

52. *Also encourages* the Department of Global Communications to continue its ongoing efforts to incorporate the working method of having thematic focal points, currently applied by the language units of the United Nations websites, as a best practice of multilingualism to improve the quality of the content of the websites;

53. *Supports and encourages* the continued use by the Department of Global Communications of Portuguese, Kiswahili, Urdu, Bangla, Hindi, Persian and the 125 languages in use by the United Nations information centres in addition to the official languages, when appropriate, and within existing resources, according to the target audience, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations and Secretary-General's message and communication to all corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization;

54. *Encourages* the Department of Global Communications to continue its long-standing and ongoing efforts to promote multilingualism through global outreach in languages other than official languages, and to mobilize adequate resources, including by exploring innovative financing options as well as voluntary contributions;

Bridging the digital divide

55. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications to contribute to raising the awareness of the international community of the importance of the implementation of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society[110] and of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies, emerging particularly from the fourth industrial revolution, can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide, within and among countries, including by commemorating World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on 17 May;

56. *Reiterates its call upon* all stakeholders, particularly the relevant United Nations entities, within their mandates and existing resources, to continue to work together to regularly analyse the nature of digital divides, study strategies to bridge them and make their findings available to the international community, as well as to promote public and private initiatives that aim to bridge the digital divide;

57. *Takes note* of the Secretary-General's Road Map for Digital Cooperation[111] and proposals set out in his report entitled "Our Common Agenda" relating to digital cooperation to outline shared principles for a digital future for all Member States to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[112]

Network of United Nations information centres

58. *Emphasizes* the importance of the network of United Nations information centres in enhancing the public image of the United Nations, in communicating messages on the United Nations to local populations, especially in developing countries, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations, and in mobilizing support for the work of the United Nations at the local level;

59. *Welcomes* the work done by the network of United Nations information centres, including the United Nations Regional Information Centre, in favour of the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents into languages other than the official languages of the United Nations, encourages information centres to continue their important multilingual activities in the interactive and proactive aspects of their work and to develop web pages and content in social media in local languages, encourages the Department of Global Communications to provide the necessary resources and technical facilities, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization, and encourages the continuation of efforts in this regard;

60. *Recognizes* the support of the network of United Nations information centres to the resident coordinator system during the COVID-19 pandemic, to promote the information and guidance from the United Nations system, including the World Health Organization, to contribute to countering the proliferation of disinformation and

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[110] Resolution 70/125; see also A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.

[111] A/74/821.

[112] Resolution 70/1.

misinformation and to disseminate messages and information about relevant activities of United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies;

61. *Stresses* the importance of rationalizing the network of United Nations information centres, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to make proposals in this direction, including through the redeployment of resources where necessary, and to report to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

62. *Reaffirms* that the rationalization of United Nations information centres must be carried out on a case-by-case basis in consultation with all concerned Member States in which existing information centres are located, the countries served by those information centres and other interested countries in the region, taking into consideration the distinctive characteristics of each region;

63. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications, through the United Nations information centres, to strengthen its cooperation with all other United Nations entities at the country level and in the context of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, in order to enhance coherence in communications and to avoid duplication of work, and in that regard notes the ongoing United Nations reform, which, inter alia, calls for the integration of the information centres into the resident coordinator system, to ensure coordinated, coherent and strategic communications on local and global issues across the United Nations system and through the information centres, including the United Nations Regional Information Centre, taking into account the needs and inputs emerging at the country level, and requests the Secretary-General to include comprehensive information on this process in his next report;

64. *Stresses* the importance of taking into account the special needs and requirements of developing countries in the field of information and communications technology for the free flow of information and knowledge in those countries;

65. *Emphasizes* the importance of implementing the 2030 Agenda at all levels, and in this regard requests further the Department of Global Communications, through the United Nations information centres, as appropriate, and especially in developing countries, to cooperate with other United Nations entities at the country level to ensure that people have the relevant information and awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals;

66. *Stresses* the importance of efforts to strengthen the outreach activities of the United Nations to those Member States remaining outside the network of United Nations information centres, through resident coordinator offices, using the mechanism established by the United Nations development system reform between the Department of Global Communications and the resident coordinator system, to provide communications support, and encourages the Secretary-General, within the context of rationalization, to extend the services of the network of information centres to those Member States;

67. *Also stresses* that the Department of Global Communications should continue to review the allocation of both staff and financial resources to the United Nations information centres in developing countries, taking into account the specific needs of the least developed countries in this regard, and requests the Secretary-General to include in the next report comprehensive information on the functioning of the United Nations information centres, including the outcome of the review of the effective and efficient allocation of staff and financial resources to United Nations information centres and the possible measures to improve the operation of the centres in developing countries;

68. *Welcomes* the support of some Member States, including developing countries, in offering, inter alia, rent-free premises for the United Nations information centres because of lack of funding, bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial resources for the information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

69. *Notes* the steps taken by the Secretariat to address the concerns of many Member States regarding the impact of measures taken by the Secretariat in previous years in relation to the information centres in Cairo, Mexico City, Pretoria and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, among others, and requests the Secretary-General to further report on and to explore ways to strengthen these and other United Nations information centres around the world, especially in Africa, keeping in mind the need to do so within existing resources;

70. *Also notes* the discussions between the Department of Global Communications and the Government of Angola on the establishment of the information centre in Luanda to address the needs of Portuguese-speaking African countries, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Government of Angola, to

accelerate the establishment and operationalization of the centre in Luanda and report on its status to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session;

III
Strategic communications services

71. *Reaffirms* the role of the strategic communications services in devising and disseminating United Nations messages by developing communications strategies, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in full compliance with their legislative mandates, in accordance with the priorities set out by the Committee on Information;

72. *Recognizes* that the network of United Nations information centres, especially in developing countries, should continue to enhance its impact and activities, including through strategic communications support, and calls upon the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of this approach to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

73. *Encourages* the Department of Global Communications, in coordination with the Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Operational Support of the Secretariat, to update the 2017 policy on strategic communications and public information, bearing in mind the key role of strategic communications in the effective implementation of peacekeeping mandates and acknowledging the risks that misinformation and disinformation pose to the implementation of mandates by United Nations peacekeeping operations and the safety and security of its personnel, especially those operating in complex, multidimensional and challenging environments;

Promotional campaigns

74. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Department of Global Communications in promoting, through its campaigns, issues of importance to the international community, and requests the Department, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness about, inter alia, reinforcing multilateralism, unprecedented humanitarian crises and needs in the world, the 2030 Agenda, South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, United Nations reform, the eradication of poverty, sustainable urban development, conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, climate change, sustainable management of forests, combating desertification, conservation of biodiversity and other environmental issues, conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and sustaining peace, refugees and migrants, people forcibly displaced by conflict and other means that violate human rights and international law, culture and development, disarmament, decolonization, human rights, including gender equality, the rights of children, persons with disabilities and migrant workers, strategic coordination in humanitarian relief, especially in natural disasters and other crises, communicable and non-communicable diseases, the needs of the African continent, the strategic partnership between the African Union and the United Nations, the nature of the critical economic and social situation in Africa and the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[113] the special needs of the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and the countries that have met the criteria for graduation from the least developed country category, the importance of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and the activities that underlie them, such as corruption, embezzlement, fraud, tax evasion, safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets, money-laundering and illegal exploitation of natural resources, the identification, freezing and recovery of stolen assets and their return to their countries of origin in a manner consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[114] combating human trafficking and modern slavery, combating transnational illicit trafficking, including in cultural heritage, the permanent memorial to and remembrance of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, the initiative on a world against violence and violent extremism, dialogue among civilizations, the culture of peace and tolerance and the consequences of the Chornobyl disaster, as well as prevention of genocide;

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[113] A/57/304, annex.

[114] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

75. *Requests* the Secretariat, in particular the Department of Global Communications, to contribute to the observance of international days and celebrations established by the General Assembly and to play a role in raising awareness and promoting these events, in a cost-neutral manner, where appropriate, in accordance with the respective Assembly resolutions, and in cooperation with the specialized agencies in charge of their implementation, where appropriate;

76. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications and its network of United Nations information centres to raise broad awareness and to engage in a comprehensive and multilingual promotional campaign and coverage, on an equal basis, of all summits, international conferences and high-level meetings mandated by the General Assembly, including those to be held in 2022;

77. *Notes* that 2023 marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide adopted on 9 December 1948,[115] as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted on 10 December 1948,[116] and requests the Department of Global Communications to raise awareness of and disseminate information on these human rights instruments;

78. *Recognizes* the communication efforts led by the Department of Global Communications in promoting the review conferences of the parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and their preparatory processes, in particular the production of various multimedia materials, including videos, images and graphics, to promote the conferences and the issues before them in the six official languages of the Organization, and in this regard encourages the Department to continue this practice in promoting high-level meetings, including through the use of traditional and new media such as social media, as appropriate;

79. *Recalls* its resolution 75/267 on Global Media and Information Literacy Week, and requests the Department of Global Communications and its network of United Nations information centres to commemorate Global Media and Information Literacy Week in the way that each considers most appropriate, including by focusing on commemorative, educational and public awareness activities that tackle the issue of disinformation and misinformation, within their existing resources;

80. *Also recalls* its resolution 76/227 of 24 December 2021 on countering disinformation for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and Human Rights Council resolution 49/21 of 1 April 2022 on the role of States in countering the negative impact of disinformation on the enjoyment and realization of human rights, and urges all stakeholders to promote media and information literacy, as a way to empower all people and facilitate digital inclusion and global connectivity, and to assist in countering disinformation and misinformation, within their existing resources;

81. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications and its network of United Nations information centres to continue raising awareness of and to disseminate information in a cost-neutral manner on the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 75/123 of 10 December 2020;

82. *Recalls* its resolutions 68/237 of 23 December 2013 and 69/16 of 18 November 2014 on the International Decade for People of African Descent, and requests the Department of Global Communications and its network of United Nations information centres to continue raising awareness of and to disseminate information on the International Decade, in accordance with the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade adopted by the General Assembly,[117] in a cost-neutral manner;

83. *Also recalls* its resolution 72/239 of 20 December 2017 on the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), and requests the Department of Global Communications and its network of United Nations information centres to raise awareness of and to disseminate information on the Decade;

84. *Further recalls* its resolution 74/135 of 18 December 2019, in which it proclaimed the period 2022–2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, and requests the Department of Global Communications and

[115] Resolution 260 A (III), annex.

[116] Resolution 217 A (III).

[117] Resolution 69/16, annex.

its network of United Nations information centres to draw attention to the critical loss of Indigenous languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize and promote Indigenous languages;

85. *Welcomes* the political declaration adopted at the Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, held on 24 September 2018[118] to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Nelson Mandela, in which the period from 2019 to 2028 was recognized as the Nelson Mandela Decade of Peace, and in this regard requests the Department of Global Communications to raise awareness of and to disseminate information on the Decade;

86. *Recalls* its resolution 72/72 of 5 December 2017, in which it proclaimed 2022 the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture, its resolution 75/279 of 18 May 2021, by which it proclaimed 2022 the International Year of Glass, its resolution 76/14 of 2 December 2021, by which it proclaimed 2022 the International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development, and its resolution 76/129 of 16 December 2021, by which it proclaimed 2022 the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development, and requests the Department of Global Communications and its network of United Nations information centres to raise awareness of and to disseminate information on these International Years;

87. *Underlines* the importance of the Department of Global Communications integrating multilingualism in the planning and implementation of promotional campaigns, including the design of logotypes and isologotypes in different languages, where appropriate, as well as the use of hashtags for social media campaigns in more than one language, taking into account the needs of the target audiences;

88. *Encourages* the Department of Global Communications to develop partnerships with the private sector and relevant organizations that promote the official languages of the United Nations and other languages, as appropriate, in order to promote the activities of the United Nations in a cost-neutral manner, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session, and in this regard welcomes the partnership with airlines that provide to their customers in-flight programmes featuring United Nations activities;

Role of the Department of Global Communications in United Nations peacekeeping operations, special political missions and peacebuilding

89. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure the active involvement of the Department of Global Communications from the planning stage and in all stages of future peacekeeping operations and special political missions through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other departments and offices of the Secretariat, in particular with the Department of Peace Operations, the Department of Operational Support, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office;

90. *Recognizes* the coordination between the Department of Global Communications and the relevant United Nations departments in disseminating information on the Secretary-General's Action for Peacekeeping initiative as well as on the progress of its implementation taking into account views expressed by the Member States;

91. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications, the Department of Peace Operations, the Department of Operational Support, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office to continue their cooperation in raising awareness of the new realities, successes and challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, especially multidimensional and complex ones, in conflict prevention, resolution and peacebuilding efforts and by special political missions, and continues to call upon them to develop and implement a comprehensive communications strategy on current challenges facing United Nations peacekeeping, countries on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission and special political missions, in consultation with Member States as appropriate;

92. *Welcomes* the process launched to ensure access to COVID-19 vaccination for all United Nations personnel around the world, including uniformed personnel deployed in peacekeeping missions and special political missions, with safe and effective vaccines, and the support by Member States to this effort, and in this regard calls upon the Department of Global Communications to ensure that an informational campaign is planned, in parallel with the launch of the vaccination campaign in order to avoid any misinformation or negative reaction from the local population;

[118] Resolution 73/1.

93. *Encourages* the Department of Global Communications to consider issuing an appropriate publication or other relevant communications on the contribution and ongoing activities of peacekeeping operations in coordination with the relevant United Nations entities in commemoration of the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers on 29 May;

94. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Global Communications in the field of peacekeeping operations and special political missions as well as its role, in close cooperation with the Department of Peace Operations, the Department of Operational Support and the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, in the process of selecting public information staff for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and in this regard invites the Department of Global Communications to second public information staff who have the skills necessary to fulfil the tasks of the operations and special political missions, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution in accordance with Chapter XV, Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, and to consider views expressed, especially by host countries, when appropriate, in this regard;

95. *Expresses deep concern* over the attacks on peacekeepers and other United Nations personnel in the field, urges the Department of Global Communications to further improve its communication strategies to address the issue of anti-United Nations propaganda, which can result in such attacks, in coordination with relevant United Nations departments and field missions, and requests the Secretary-General to include an update on this issue in his next report to the Committee on Information;

96. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications to coordinate with the Department of Operational Support and the Department of Peace Operations to raise awareness to reduce the environmental footprint in the field as part of the implementation of the environment strategy for peace operations;

97. *Emphasizes* the importance of the peacekeeping gateway on the United Nations website, and requests the Secretariat to continue its efforts to support the implementation of the mandates of the peacekeeping missions by further developing and maintaining their websites and to ensure that their communications strategies are tailored to address the host Governments, the local populations, the troop and police-contributing countries and other relevant stakeholders;

98. *Welcomes* promotional campaigns of the Department of Global Communications showcasing troop- and police-contributing countries, and encourages the Department to develop more effective and integrated communications strategies to highlight the contributions of individual troop- and police-contributing countries in an equitable manner;

99. *Encourages* the Department of Global Communications to pay tribute to the peacekeepers who have served at great personal risk during the pandemic and those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the cause of peace, thereby also recognizing the efforts of troop- and police-contributing countries;

100. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications, in the context of its promotion of the United Nations peacekeeping activities, to highlight the work and mandate of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations;

101. *Recalls* its resolutions 62/214 of 21 December 2007 on the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel, 70/286 of 17 June 2016 on cross-cutting issues, 75/321 of 2 September 2021 on United Nations action on sexual exploitation and abuse, 75/132 of 15 December 2020 on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission and 75/281 of 24 May 2021 on the comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects, takes note of the report of the Secretary-General[119] and Security Council resolutions 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015 and 2272 (2016) of 11 March 2016, requests the Department of Global Communications, the Department of Peace Operations, the Department of Operational Support, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office to continue to cooperate in implementing an effective outreach programme to explain the zero-tolerance policy of the Organization regarding sexual exploitation and abuse in accordance with the objectives set out in the aforementioned resolutions and to inform the public of the outcome of all such cases involving United Nations staff and related personnel, including cases where allegations are ultimately found to be legally unproven, requests the Departments and the Office to inform the public

[119] A/76/702.

of steps taken to protect the rights of the victims and ensure adequate support for the witnesses, in accordance with the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel, and stresses the importance of the Department of Global Communications in showcasing the compact proposed between the Secretariat and troop-contributing countries in that regard, as well as all the activities related to the circle of leadership;

102. *Notes* the importance of communication activities and the dissemination of information relating to sustaining peace and peacebuilding efforts, in particular, peacebuilding activities carried out by the peacekeeping missions, meetings and activities of the Peacebuilding Commission, country-specific configurations, the Peacebuilding Support Office and the Peacebuilding Fund, and requests the Department of Global Communications to enhance its cooperation with these entities in that regard, in particular through increased usage of social media within existing resources, with a view to widening outreach of their important work and encouraging national ownership;

Role of the Department of Global Communications in strengthening dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace as a means of enhancing understanding among nations

103. *Recalls* its resolutions on dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, and requests the Department of Global Communications, while ensuring the pertinence and relevance of subjects for promotional campaigns on this issue, to continue to provide the support necessary for the dissemination of information pertaining to dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, as well as the initiative on the Alliance of Civilizations, and to take due steps in fostering the culture of dialogue among civilizations, promoting the initiative on a world against violence and violent extremism in accordance with General Assembly resolution 72/241 of 20 December 2017, and promoting cultural understanding, tolerance, respect for and freedom of religion or belief and effective enjoyment by all of all human rights and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, and requests a briefing by the Secretariat on the measures taken to disseminate information pertaining to dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, before the next session of the Committee on Information;

104. *Invites* the United Nations system, especially the Department of Global Communications, to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and to formulate ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields, taking into account the Programme of Action of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations;[120]

105. *Recalls* its resolution 69/312 of 6 July 2015, in which it acknowledged the achievements of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the efforts of the High Representative of the Secretary-General for the Alliance of Civilizations, as well as the declarations adopted by the Global Forums of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations,[121] and welcomes the continuing support of the Department of Global Communications for the work of the Alliance, including its ongoing projects;

106. *Welcomes and encourages* the various initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels to enhance interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation and to strengthen people-to-people bonds;

IV
News services

107. *Stresses* that the central objective of the news services implemented by the Department of Global Communications is the timely delivery of accurate, objective, evidence-based and balanced news and information emanating from the United Nations system in different supports and formats, including print, radio, television and the Internet, including social media platforms, to the free, independent, plural and diverse media and other audiences worldwide, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, and reiterates its request to the Department to ensure that all breaking news stories, and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of bias, while adhering to the Department's editorial standards;

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[120] Resolution 56/6, sect. B.

[121] Madrid, Spain; Istanbul, Turkey; Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Doha, Qatar; Vienna, Austria; Bali, Indonesia; and Baku, Azerbaijan.

108. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to initiate the preparations for a global code of conduct that promotes integrity in public information through an inclusive approach that involves all relevant stakeholders within existing resources;

109. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Department of Global Communications to mainstream and consolidate news and multimedia content through the coordinated and centralized UN News online portal, which provides content in both traditional and digital format in the six official languages, as well as in Hindi, Kiswahili and Portuguese, and in this regard requests the Secretariat to continue to support those efforts by seeking to ensure that those services provide content in an equitable manner in all official languages, as well as in Portuguese and Kiswahili, including by encouraging the sharing of best practices among language sections;

110. *Also recognizes* the important role of television and video services provided by the Department of Global Communications, and notes the recent efforts in making available online broadcast-quality video that can be streamed or downloaded by smaller broadcast outlets that do not have access to satellite feeds;

Traditional means of communication

111. *Welcomes* the sustained efforts of United Nations Radio, which remains one of the most effective and far-reaching traditional media available to the Department of Global Communications and an important instrument in United Nations activities, to enhance the timeliness, presentation and thematic focus of its multilingual programmes on United Nations activities and to ensure the widest possible dissemination of its programming to media outlets using the most suitable platforms and formats, and requests the Department to continue producing and disseminating the programmes, in accordance with client needs;

112. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts being made by the Department of Global Communications to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages, with the addition of Portuguese, Kiswahili, Urdu, Bangla and Hindi as well as other languages, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his upcoming report to the Committee on Information detailed information about such partnerships with broadcasting stations as well as statistics about their multiplying impacts on potential audiences;

113. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications to continue to build partnerships with local, national and regional media outlets (print, broadcast and digital) to extend the United Nations message to all corners of the world in an accurate and impartial way, and requests the News and Media Division of the Department to continue to take full advantage of modern technologies and equipment;

114. *Welcomes* the completion of the inventory of the first 68 years of United Nations audiovisual history and, recognizing the importance of the audiovisual archives of the United Nations, stresses the urgency of digitization of the remaining 40 per cent of the archives in order to prevent further deterioration of these unique historical archives, encourages the Department of Global Communications to prioritize the development of collaborative arrangements for the digitization of these archives while preserving their multilingual character, in a cost-neutral manner, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session, and recalls the contribution of Oman in this regard;

115. *Notes*, in this regard, the proposed strategy for the digitization of the United Nations audiovisual archive materials for long-term preservation, access and sustainable management,[122] and requests the Department of Global Communications to revise and update for consideration by the relevant bodies both a detailed proposal for the mass digitization of the remaining audiovisual collections, within existing resources, and report on solicitation efforts and plans for voluntary contributions to fund the digitization and storage and long-term preservation of the audiovisual archives;

United Nations website and social media

116. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations website is an essential tool for Member States and for the general public, the media, non-governmental organizations and educational institutions, and in this regard reiterates the continued

[122] A/AC.198/2014/3, annex.

need for strengthened efforts by the Department of Global Communications to regularly maintain, update and improve it;

117. *Recognizes* the potential of United Nations websites and social media accounts to offer multilingual and multimedia digital content, integrating written, spoken and visual elements in all of the official languages, and encourages the Department of Global Communications to work towards such an objective;

118. *Also recognizes* the efforts made by the Secretariat to implement the basic accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities to gain access to and take part in the work of the United Nations in person or online, including through the work of the Accessibility Centre at United Nations Headquarters, calls upon the Department of Global Communications to continue to work towards compliance with accessibility requirements on all new and updated pages of the website, with the aim of ensuring its accessibility for persons with different kinds of disabilities, and in this regard encourages the Department of Global Communications and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to further cooperate and identify potential synergies;

119. *Further recognizes* that the COVID-19 pandemic is deepening pre-existing inequalities and that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by the impact of the pandemic, and in this regard encourages the Department of Global Communications to continue to promote the design, development, production and distribution of accessible information and communications at an early stage, so that these become accessible at minimum cost;

120. *Recalls* the launch of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy in 2019 and welcomes the development of the United Nations Disability-Inclusive Communications Guidelines, which provide guidance on how to create inclusive and accessible content, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session on progress achieved in this regard;

121. *Reaffirms* the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites, and urges the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to develop, maintain and update multilingual United Nations websites, including United Nations Web TV, its video content and metadata, and the web page of the Secretary-General in all the official languages of the United Nations, from within existing resources and on an equitable basis;

122. *Notes with concern* that the multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations website in certain official languages has improved at a much slower rate than expected, and in this regard urges the Department of Global Communications, in coordination with content-providing offices, to advance actions taken to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website;

123. *Recalls* paragraph 42 of its resolution 73/346, notes with concern the disparity between the English and the non-English languages on the websites maintained by the Secretariat, urges the Secretary-General to lead the efforts of all offices and departments of the Secretariat to take concrete action to address such uneven development, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders, including the Department of Global Communications, content-providing Secretariat entities and the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat, to continue their collaboration, within their respective mandates, so as to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites developed and maintained by all Secretariat entities, in full conformance with the principles of multilingualism and in compliance with the relevant resolutions addressing multilingualism and accessibility for persons with disabilities, by making every effort to translate materials currently available only in English and by providing offices and departments with technological solutions that comply with the principle of parity, from within existing resources;

124. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure, while maintaining an up-to-date and accurate website and social media, the equitable distribution among all official languages of financial and human resources within the Department of Global Communications allocated to the United Nations website and social media, to ensure engagement with full respect for the needs and the specificities of all six official languages;

125. *Welcomes* the cooperative arrangements undertaken by the Department of Global Communications with academic institutions to increase the number of web pages available in official and non-official languages, and requests the Secretary-General, in coordination with content-providing offices, to extend such cooperative arrangements, in a cost-effective manner, to all the official languages of the United Nations, bearing in mind the necessity of adherence to United Nations standards and guidelines;

126. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications to ensure, to the extent possible within existing resources, that its guidelines on minimum standards for multilingualism, which serve as a guide for website developers

and managers, ensure the full and equitable use of all the official languages of the United Nations in websites within the un.org domain, continue to be developed and updated and are applied consistently across Secretariat entities and their respective subdivisions, and encourages the Department to explore the possibilities of applying these norms to websites under different domain names in a cost-neutral manner, within existing resources;

127. *Encourages* the continuation of live webcasts of public meetings of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and their respective subsidiary bodies, as well as of the Security Council, with interpretation services, and requests the Secretariat to make every effort to provide full access to archived videos in all official languages of all past open formal United Nations meetings with interpretation services, in strict observance of the principle of full parity of the six official languages of the United Nations, in order to promote transparency and accountability within the Organization, and in that regard requests the Department of Global Communications, the Office of Information and Communications Technology and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to collaborate, on a cost-neutral basis, to explore cost-efficient technological options to ensure equal availability, searchability, completeness and user-friendly presentation of webcast archives in all official languages on the United Nations website, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session on progress achieved in this regard;

128. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the technological infrastructure of the Department of Global Communications, including the United Nations information centres, on a continuous basis in order to widen the outreach of the Department and to continue to improve the United Nations website in a cost-neutral manner;

129. *Encourages* the Department of Global Communications, in collaboration with the Office of Information and Communications Technology, to continue its efforts to ensure that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations fully support Latin, non-Latin and bidirectional scripts in order to enhance the equality of all official languages on the United Nations website;

130. *Acknowledges* the increasing importance of social media in order to reach the widest possible audience, and as such welcomes the growing popularity of the United Nations official social media accounts across all languages, and encourages the Department of Global Communications to continue to expand, within existing resources, its multilingual presence across platforms, including those showing a trend in growth outlets, including new social media platforms, by providing timely updates on the work and priorities of the Organization in the six official languages of the United Nations, as well as additional non-official languages whenever appropriate;

131. *Underlines* the importance that, in the implementation of its multilingual social media strategy, the Department of Global Communications ensures full parity among the official languages of the Organization, and in that regard stresses the need for United Nations social media campaigns to use content suitable for each language, including hashtags and other labels, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session by providing available analytics, classified by official languages, as well as Kiswahili, Portuguese and Hindi, on audiences of social media accounts managed by the Secretariat;

132. *Recalls* that, in paragraph 41 of its resolution 73/346, the General Assembly welcomed the renewed efforts of the Secretary-General to conduct a comprehensive review of the United Nations websites, presenting the status of content in non-official languages, and noted with appreciation the innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-neutral measures proposed in the report of the Secretary-General on multilingualism[123] to reinforce the broader multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations websites, as appropriate, and requests the Secretary-General to present an updated version of the review to the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

V
Library services

133. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Department of Global Communications to implement the recommendations of the Strategic Outlook 2025 of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, a result of the Library working group on improvement of knowledge and electronic library services;

134. *Commends* the steps taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and the other Secretariat libraries, members of the Steering Committee for Libraries of the United Nations, to put forward the New York pledge: United Nations

[123] A/73/761.

libraries mobilize to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and calls upon United Nations Secretariat libraries to work with the Dag Hammarskjöld Library on practical cooperation in devising modern library and knowledge services and electronic platforms, in a cost-neutral manner;

135. *Reiterates* the need to maintain a multilingual collection of books, periodicals and other materials in both hard copy and electronic formats, accessible to Member States and others, ensuring that the Dag Hammarskjöld Library continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities, including through a multilingual home page, from within existing resources;

136. *Welcomes* the initiatives taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, in its capacity as the focal point, to expand the scope of the regional training and knowledge-sharing workshops organized for the depository libraries in developing countries to include outreach in their activities;

137. *Acknowledges* the role of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in enhancing knowledge-sharing and networking activities to ensure access to the vast store of United Nations knowledge for delegates, permanent missions of Member States, the Secretariat, researchers and depository libraries worldwide;

138. *Recalls* paragraph 80 of its resolution 74/252 of 27 December 2019, and requests the Secretary-general to digitize and preserve the print heritage of the Organization (1946–1993) currently held in the basements of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and make it available online through the United Nations Digital Library by exploring all possible avenues, including voluntary contributions and support from other stakeholders;

VI
Outreach services

139. *Stresses* that the central objective of the outreach and knowledge services implemented by the Department of Global Communications is to promote awareness of the role and work of the United Nations by fostering dialogue with global constituencies, such as academia, civil society, educators, students and youth, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations;

140. *Notes with serious concern* that many outreach and knowledge services are not yet available in all official languages, and in this regard urges the Department of Global Communications, as a matter of priority, to mainstream multilingualism into all outreach and knowledge services, bearing in mind the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations and ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of the Department, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages;

141. *Encourages* the United Nations Academic Impact to take effective steps to facilitate exchanges between the United Nations and institutions of higher education and academic, research and scientific communities in all regions to support the common principles and purposes of the United Nations, contribute to the realization of the 2030 Agenda, foster global citizenship and fill knowledge gaps, while recognizing the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its constitution;

142. *Notes* the continued growth of the United Nations Academic Impact, calls upon the Department of Global Communications to promote global awareness of the Academic Impact in order to encourage balanced participation among Member States and their continued support for the initiative, within existing resources, and encourages Member States to promote the initiative among their academic institutions, as appropriate, with a view to their joining it, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 76/84 A and B;

143. *Commends* the United Nations Academic Impact for its continued engagement with the global community of scholarship in realizing the objectives of the Organization, requests the Secretary-General to continue to promote this initiative by encouraging eligible institutions of higher education in all regions, especially from developing countries, to enrol and contribute actively to the goals of the United Nations, and in this regard notes with appreciation the cost-neutral partnerships it has successfully initiated thus far with a view to multiplying membership;

144. *Welcomes* the educational outreach activities of the Department of Global Communications, and requests the Department to continue to reach educators and young people worldwide through a range of multilingual multimedia platforms, including, in particular, in the dissemination of the 2030 Agenda through the educational system, including elementary schools;

145. *Also welcomes* the engagement by the Department of Global Communications with Model United Nations clubs and conferences throughout the world, and requests the Department to continue its efforts to educate Model United Nations organizers and participants about the practices, procedures and norms of the Organization, thereby ensuring the accuracy of simulations and promoting adherence to United Nations values;

146. *Notes* the efforts of the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth in supporting the meaningful engagement of young people on a global scale in close collaboration with other United Nations entities;

147. *Emphasizes* the importance of the continued implementation by the Department of Global Communications of the ongoing Reham Al-Farra Memorial Journalists' Fellowship Programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as mandated by the General Assembly, and requests the Department to consider how best to maximize the benefits derived from the Programme by extending, inter alia, its duration and the number of its participants, in accordance with Assembly resolution 35/201 of 16 December 1980;

148. *Encourages* the *UN Chronicle* to continue to publish online content in all six official languages to develop partnerships and collaborative educational activities and events with civil society organizations and institutions of higher learning;

149. *Acknowledges* the importance of the *Yearbook of the United Nations* as an authoritative reference work, and welcomes the work of the Department of Global Communications in expanding the content and the functions of the website of the *Yearbook*;

150. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure that, in view of their income-generating nature and the significance of their educational outreach, in particular their impact on increasing numbers of young people, guided tours, including virtual tours, at United Nations Headquarters continue to be made available in all six official languages of the United Nations as well as in non-official languages;

151. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Global Communications to strengthen its role as a focal point for two-way interaction with civil society relating to the priorities and concerns of the Organization identified by Member States, and also notes in this regard the increasing involvement of civil society in United Nations activities, including the outreach activities directed at youth representatives and young journalists;

152. *Recalls* its resolution 41/68 D of 3 December 1986, commends the World Federation of United Nations Associations and its more than 100 national United Nations associations for the valuable contributions that they have made during the past 76 years through their global activities in the mobilization of popular support for the United Nations, and calls for continued collaboration between the World Federation and the Department of Global Communications in support of their complementary objectives;

153. *Commends*, in a spirit of cooperation, the United Nations Correspondents Association for its ongoing activities and for its Dag Hammarskjöld Memorial Scholarship Fund, which sponsors journalists from developing countries to come to United Nations Headquarters and report on the activities during the sessions of the General Assembly, and further encourages the international community to continue its financial support for the Fund;

154. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts and contribution of United Nations Messengers of Peace, Goodwill Ambassadors and other advocates to promote the work of the United Nations and to enhance international public awareness of its priorities and concerns, and calls upon the Department of Global Communications to continue to involve them in its global communications and media strategies and outreach activities;

155. *Welcomes* the continued collaborations between the Department of Global Communications and cultural, sporting and other personalities and characters as well as with global events such as world expos and festivals, throughout the world to promote the issues on the United Nations agenda, as well as an understanding of the role of the Organization itself, while encouraging the Department to reach out to a broader range of nationalities, notes the progress made in working with partners worldwide, and requests the Department to continue efforts to leverage these partnerships to reach mass audiences with content related to the work of the United Nations;

VII
Final remarks

156. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its forty-fifth session and to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the activities of the Department of Global Communications and on the implementation of all recommendations and requests contained in the present resolution, and requests the Department to provide a briefing in this regard, before the next session of the Committee;

157. *Notes* the initiative taken by the Department of Global Communications, in cooperation with the Department of Safety and Security and the Protocol and Liaison Service of the Secretariat, during the annual general debate of the General Assembly, to issue special identification stickers to mission-designated personnel of Member States to enable them to escort media covering the visits of high-level officials to restricted areas, and strongly urges the Secretary-General to continue to improve this practice by acceding to the request by Member States to provide the needed number of additional passes to press and other relevant officers of Member States to allow their access to all areas that are deemed restricted, in order to effectively and comprehensively report on high-level meetings that include officials of delegations of Member States;

158. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

159. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

RESOLUTION 77/129

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 164 to 2, with 4 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/404, para. 8)[124]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Against: Israel, United States of America
Abstaining: France, Malawi, South Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

77/129. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

[124] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Recalling also its resolution 76/85 of 9 December 2021, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of the timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

Mindful of the non-fulfilment of the obligation to transmit information on some Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter,

Recalling its resolution 75/123 of 10 December 2020 on the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and stressing in that regard the need to make real progress towards its full implementation,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[125]

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to respect their obligations under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with regard to each Territory on the agenda of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. *Also requests* the administering Powers concerned, in accordance with their Charter obligations, to transmit or continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to the economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories for which they are respectively responsible, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the Territory and the constitutional relationship of the Territory to the administering Power, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

RESOLUTION 77/130

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 164 to 2, with 4 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/405, para. 8)[126]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia,

[125] A/77/63.

[126] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: France, Rwanda, South Sudan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

77/130. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[127]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all its other relevant resolutions, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991, 55/146 of 8 December 2000, 65/119 of 10 December 2010 and 75/123 of 10 December 2020,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity, including the use of the Non-Self-Governing Territories for military activity, that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter, General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the Indigenous populations,

Taking into account its resolution 1803 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 regarding the sovereignty of peoples over their natural wealth and resources in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to hurricanes, natural phenomena or other extreme weather events and environmental degradation,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the number and scale of hurricanes, natural phenomena or other extreme weather events and their devastating impact in 2017 in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean Sea, resulting in the loss of life and negative economic, social and environmental consequences for their vulnerable societies and hampering the achievement of sustainable development in these Territories, in particular in Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, as well as in Puerto Rico, whose situation is addressed in the Special Committee,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and with respect to the implementation of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and resolution 76/204 of 17 December 2021 on disaster risk reduction,

Conscious that foreign economic investment, when undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the

[127] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

socioeconomic development of the Territories and to the exercise of their right to self-determination in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and with other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socioeconomic development of the Territories, especially during times of economic and financial crisis;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the Indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to avoid any economic or other activities, including the use of the Non-Self-Governing Territories for military activity, that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and in this regard reminds the administering Powers of their responsibility and accountability vis-à-vis any detriment to the interests of the peoples of those Territories, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the exploitation of the marine and other natural resources in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration is not in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and does not adversely affect the interests of the peoples of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Once again urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Also calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to provide all the necessary assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories affected by hurricanes, natural phenomena or other extreme weather events in order to alleviate the humanitarian needs in the affected communities, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction;

12. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to continue to provide assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories affected by hurricanes, natural phenomena or other extreme weather events and to formulate appropriate programmes to support emergency response and recovery and rebuilding efforts, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on this matter;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter, General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and the other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

14. *Appeals* to trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also appeals to the media to disseminate information about the developments in this regard;

15. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, in particular the Indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 77/131

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 120 to 2, with 49 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/406, para. 8)[128]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

[128] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

77/131. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General[129] and the report of the Economic and Social Council[130] on the item,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[131]

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including, in particular, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2021/2 A of 14 September 2020 and 2021/2 B of 21 July 2021,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Welcoming also the participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social spheres, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting those challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the resources necessary for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective responsibilities, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance that they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

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[129] A/77/66.

[130] E/2022/51.

[131] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/87 of 9 December 2021 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

Recalling also relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts through the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples as an important element for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), including participation in the regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;

7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance for the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

10. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(a) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(b) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;

(c) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(d) Illegal exploitation of the marine and other natural resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

11. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

12. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998,[132] calling for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

14. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee to deepen cooperation with the President of the Economic and Social Council on the identical agenda items of both bodies on assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, through regular consultations, in accordance with relevant resolutions on decolonization;

15. *Recalls* the publication by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization, and requests its continued updating and wide dissemination;

16. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, inter alia, with the assistance of the relevant specialized agencies;

18. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

19. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts through the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and

[132] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21* (E/1998/41), sect. III.G.

organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

21. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolutions on this question, and requests it to continue to consider and intensify its cooperation with the Special Committee, with the aim of developing appropriate measures for the further coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

22. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report annually to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the measures necessary to implement it, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 77/132

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/407, para. 8)[133]

77/132. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/88 of 9 December 2021,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[134] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the facilities necessary to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

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[133] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Fiji, Greece, Iraq, Namibia, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[134] A/77/67.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/133

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[135]

77/133. Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/89 of 9 December 2021,

Recalling also all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990, 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, 1495 (2003) of 31 July 2003, 1541 (2004) of 29 April 2004, 1570 (2004) of 28 October 2004, 1598 (2005) of 28 April 2005, 1634 (2005) of 28 October 2005, 1675 (2006) of 28 April 2006 and 1720 (2006) of 31 October 2006,

Underlining the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007) on 30 April 2007, 1783 (2007) on 31 October 2007, 1813 (2008) on 30 April 2008, 1871 (2009) on 30 April 2009, 1920 (2010) on 30 April 2010, 1979 (2011) on 27 April 2011, 2044 (2012) on 24 April 2012, 2099 (2013) on 25 April 2013, 2152 (2014) on 29 April 2014, 2218 (2015) on 28 April 2015, 2285 (2016) on 29 April 2016, 2351 (2017) on 28 April 2017, 2414 (2018) on 27 April 2018, 2440 (2018) on 31 October 2018, 2468 (2019) on 30 April 2019, 2494 (2019) on 30 October 2019, 2548 (2020) on 30 October 2020 and 2602 (2021) on 29 October 2021,

Expressing its satisfaction that the parties met on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 under the auspices of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and in the presence of the neighbouring countries and that they have agreed to continue the negotiations,

Also expressing its satisfaction at the holding of nine informal meetings convened by the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General on 9 and 10 August 2009 in Dürnstein, Austria, on 10 and 11 February 2010 in Westchester County, New York, United States of America, from 7 to 10 November 2010, from 16 to 18 December 2010 and from 21 to 23 January 2011, all on Long Island, New York, from 7 to 9 March 2011 in Mellieha, Malta, from 5 to 7 June 2011 and from 19 to 21 July 2011, both on Long Island, and from 11 to 13 March 2012 in Manhasset, New York, to prepare for the fifth round of negotiations,

Calling upon all the parties and the States of the region to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy and with each other,

[135] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee.

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara,

Welcoming, in this regard, the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution to the dispute, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[136]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[137]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Supports* the process of negotiations initiated by Security Council resolution 1754 (2007) and further sustained by Council resolutions 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012), 2099 (2013), 2152 (2014), 2218 (2015), 2285 (2016), 2351 (2017), 2414 (2018), 2440 (2018), 2468 (2019), 2494 (2019), 2548 (2020) and 2602 (2021), with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and commends the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for Western Sahara in this respect;

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue, in order to enter into a more intensive phase of negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, noting efforts and developments since 2006, thus ensuring the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1754 (2007), 1783 (2007), 1813 (2008), 1871 (2009), 1920 (2010), 1979 (2011), 2044 (2012), 2099 (2013), 2152 (2014), 2218 (2015), 2285 (2016), 2351 (2017), 2414 (2018), 2440 (2018), 2468 (2019), 2494 (2019), 2548 (2020) and 2602 (2021) and the success of negotiations;

4. *Also welcomes* the ongoing negotiations between the parties held on 18 and 19 June 2007, on 10 and 11 August 2007, from 7 to 9 January 2008 and from 16 to 18 March 2008 in the presence of the neighbouring countries and under the auspices of the United Nations;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and calls upon them to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law;

6. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/134

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[138]

77/134. Question of American Samoa

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of American Samoa and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[139]

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[136] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[137] A/77/506.

[138] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[139] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa[140] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of American Samoa and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[141] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including American Samoa,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[142]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of American Samoa require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Acknowledging the outcome of the referendum held on 6 November 2018, in which the proposal to give the Fono, the Territory's legislature, the authority to override the Governor's veto was rejected,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of American Samoa in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of American Samoa and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United States of America as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to American Samoa and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of American Samoa in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of American Samoa with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which

[140] A/AC.109/2022/1.

[141] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[142] A/56/61, annex.

alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[143]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Recalling the statement made by a representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the 2018 Pacific regional seminar,[144]

Recalling also the statement made by that representative in which he expressed his view that the people of American Samoa were happy with the relationship with the administering Power, which could be described as strong and healthy as well as beneficial to the people and the Government of the Territory, and that the most important benefit to American Samoa had been the protection of its Indigenous rights to the land as provided for in the Deeds of Cession,

Recalling further the statement made by the representative that the political status of American Samoa as an unincorporated and unorganized territory of the administering Power limited its ability to self-government and exposed it to decisions made by the administering Power,

Recalling the statement by the representative that, while certain aspects of the form of government of the Territory and its relationship with the administering Power were challenging and in need of improvement, the solutions could be found within the confines of the political and judicial systems of the administering Power and that the territorial Government was pursuing legal actions to counteract the impact of unfavourable federal actions and sought the international community's tacit support,

Recalling also the information provided by the representative that the Government of American Samoa intended to pursue additional funding from the administering Power to maintain and expand the work of the Office of Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations,

Recalling further the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007 and the creation of the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee, as well as the holding in June 2010 of the Territory's fourth Constitutional Convention,

Recalling the decisions of the United States judiciary in which it dismissed a lawsuit seeking a declaratory judgment that would have asserted that the citizenship clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States extended to American Samoa, and taking note of the decision in which the petition for a writ of certiorari was denied,[145]

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[143] See resolution 75/123.

[144] Available at www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars/2018.

[145] Decisions of the Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, issued on 5 June and 2 October 2015, affirming the judgment of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, and of the Supreme Court of the United States on 13 June 2016, in connection with *Tuaua v. United States*.

Noting another case before the United States judiciary regarding the citizenship clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States,[146] and the decisions taken on the matter,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Recalling the elections held in the Territory in November 2020 to elect the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, 20 members of the American Samoa House of Representatives and the delegate to the United States House of Representatives,[147]

Recalling also relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of American Samoa to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of American Samoa, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of American Samoa to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Takes note* of the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues with a view to making political and economic progress, recalls the establishment in April 2016 of the Office of Political Status, Constitutional Review and Federal Relations, and notes the establishment in 2022 of the Constitutional Review Committee;

5. *Recalls* the indication by the territorial Government that American Samoa should remain on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, under the purview of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, until such time as its people have exercised their right to self-determination;

6. *Also recalls* the invitation extended in 2015 by the Governor of American Samoa to the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

7. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

8. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

9. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of American Samoa and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between American Samoa and the administering Power;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to

[146] *Fitisemanu v. United States*.

[147] See A/AC.109/2021/1, para. 7.

advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in American Samoa, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

11. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

12. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[148] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

13. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of American Samoa and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/135

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[149]

77/135. Question of Anguilla

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Anguilla and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[150]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla[151] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Anguilla and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[152] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Anguilla,

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[148] Resolution 70/1.

[149] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[150] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[151] A/AC.109/2022/2.

[152] Resolution 1514 (XV).

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[153]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Anguilla require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Anguilla in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Anguilla and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Anguilla and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Anguilla in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Anguilla with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[154]

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[153] A/56/61, annex.

[154] See resolution 75/123.

Noting the statement made by a representative of the Government of Anguilla at the 2022 Pacific regional seminar,[155]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Recalling that the first regional seminar held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory was the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government with the cooperation of the administering Power,

Welcoming the re-engagement of the Territory with the Special Committee in 2022,

Aware of the follow-up meeting, held after the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, between the Chair of the Special Committee and the Chief Minister of Anguilla, who reiterated the urgent need for a visiting mission,

Recalling the decisions taken in 2011 to set up a drafting team to prepare a new constitution and present it for public consultation in the Territory and the recent efforts undertaken in that regard, including the establishment, in September 2015, of a new Constitutional and Electoral Reform Committee to advance constitutional and electoral reform, draft proposals for electoral and constitutional reforms submitted as the draft constitution by the Committee in November 2016, as well as the revised draft Constitution issued in March 2017 and presented to the Executive Council in May 2017, and aware of the proposals made by the territorial Government to the administering Power on amendments to the Constitution of Anguilla and of the Anguilla Constitution (Amendment) Orders 2019 and 2020, which came into force in May 2019 and November 2020, respectively,

Noting the recommencement of public consultations on the constitutional amendments in 2021,

Noting also the participation of the Territory as a member in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council and an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling with concern the devastating damage and impact caused in the Territory by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in 2017,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Recalling the general elections that were held in June 2020,[156]

Recalling also relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Anguilla to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Anguilla, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Anguilla to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the

[155] Available at www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars/2022.

[156] See A/AC.109/2021/2, para. 3.

legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Urges* that constitutional discussions with the administering Power, including public consultations, be concluded as soon as possible;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Power to facilitate a visiting mission by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

7. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in strengthening its commitments in the economic domain, including budgetary matters, with regional support as needed and appropriate;

9. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

10. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

11. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Anguilla and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Anguilla and the administering Power;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Anguilla, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

13. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

14. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[157] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

15. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

[157] Resolution 70/1.

16. *Reiterates its call upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to provide all the assistance necessary to the Territory, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction, in particular in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria that impacted the Territory in 2017;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Anguilla and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/136

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[158]

77/136. Question of Bermuda

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Bermuda and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[159]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda[160] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Bermuda and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[161] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Bermuda,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[162]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Bermuda require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-

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[158] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[159] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[160] A/AC.109/2022/3.

[161] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[162] A/56/61, annex.

case basis, and that the views of the people of Bermuda in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Bermuda and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Bermuda and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Bermuda in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Bermuda with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[163]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting the statement made by a representative of the Government of Bermuda at the 2021 Caribbean regional seminar,[164]

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

Stressing the importance of good governance, transparency and accountability in the Territory,

Stressing also the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

[163] See resolution 75/123.

[164] Available at www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars/2021.

Recalling the extension by the administering Power to Bermuda of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[165] in March 2017,

Recalling also the general elections that were held in October 2020,[166]

Recalling further relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Bermuda to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Bermuda, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Bermuda to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and continues to regret that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

5. *Underlines* the need further to strengthen good governance, transparency and accountability in government for the benefit of the Territory;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

7. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

8. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

9. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Bermuda and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Bermuda and the administering Power;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Bermuda, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

11. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take

[165] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[166] See A/AC.109/2021/3, para. 4.

steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

12. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[167] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

13. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Bermuda and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/137

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[168]

77/137. Question of the British Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the British Virgin Islands and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[169]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands[170] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the British Virgin Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[171] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the British Virgin Islands,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[172]

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[167] Resolution 70/1.

[168] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[169] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[170] A/AC.109/2022/4.

[171] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[172] A/56/61, annex.

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the British Virgin Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the British Virgin Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the British Virgin Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to the British Virgin Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the British Virgin Islands in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the British Virgin Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[173]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development

[173] See resolution 75/123.

Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting the statement made by a representative of the Government of the British Virgin Islands at the 2022 Pacific regional seminar,[174]

Recalling the invitation extended by the Premier to the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to the Territory in 2019 and 2021,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Cognizant of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

Recalling with concern the devastating damage and impact caused in the Territory by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in 2017,

Recalling the general elections that were held in February 2019,[175]

Recalling also the establishment of the Commission of Inquiry by the Governor on 18 January 2021, and aware of the publication in April 2022 of the report of the Commission of Inquiry,

Taking note of the agreement of the administering Power to the proposal by the territorial Government of National Unity on the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry without the need for a temporary partial suspension of the Constitution,

Expressing concern that the administering Power put an Order in Council on hold to partially suspend the Constitution if the Government of the United Kingdom assesses that the implementation of the recommendations does not proceed satisfactorily,

Recalling relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the British Virgin Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the British Virgin Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the British Virgin Islands to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Recalls* the 2007 Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, and stresses the importance of continued discussions on constitutional matters, to accord greater responsibility to the territorial Government for the effective implementation of the Constitution and increased levels of education relating to constitutional matters;

5. *Calls for* full respect of the Constitution and the mutual agreement with respect to the recommendations of the report of the Commission of Inquiry, and calls upon all parties involved to maintain dialogue and work in partnership in the interest of the people of the Territory;

6. *Stresses* the need for continued close monitoring by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples of the

[174] Available at www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars/2022.

[175] See A/AC.109/2019/4, para. 3.

situation in the Territory, including the dispatch of a visiting mission, in close consultation with the administering Power and the territorial Government;

7. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

8. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

9. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

10. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the British Virgin Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the British Virgin Islands and the administering Power;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the British Virgin Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

12. *Also calls upon* the administering Power to facilitate a visiting mission to the Territory, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

13. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

14. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[176] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

15. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

16. *Reiterates its call upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to provide all the necessary assistance to the Territory, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction, in particular in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria that impacted the Territory in 2017;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the British Virgin Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[176] Resolution 70/1.

RESOLUTION 77/138

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[177]

77/138. Question of the Cayman Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the Cayman Islands and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[178]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands[179] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the Cayman Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[180] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the Cayman Islands,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[181]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the Cayman Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the Cayman Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the Cayman Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate

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[177] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[178] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[179] A/AC.109/2022/5.

[180] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[181] A/56/61, annex.

sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to the Cayman Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Cayman Islands in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Cayman Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[182]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Recalling the statement made by the honorary representative of the territorial Government at the 2010 Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa,[183]

Noting with serious concern that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2010,

Aware of the work, in accordance with the 2009 Constitution, of the Constitutional Commission, which serves as an advisory body on constitutional matters,

Aware also that the territorial Government proposed constitutional changes to the administering Power and that subsequently the Cayman Islands Constitution (Amendment) Order 2020 came into force in December 2020,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Cognizant of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

Recalling the general election that was held in April 2021,[184]

Recalling also relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

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[182] See resolution 75/123.

[183] Available at www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars/2010.

[184] See A/AC.109/2021/5, "The Territory at a glance".

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Cayman Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the Cayman Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the Cayman Islands to determine freely their future political status, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Recalls* the 2009 Constitution of the Cayman Islands, and stresses the importance of the work of the Constitutional Commission, including its work on human rights education;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

8. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the Cayman Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Cayman Islands and the administering Power;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Cayman Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[185] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

[185] Resolution 70/1.

12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Cayman Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/139

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[186]

77/139. Question of French Polynesia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of French Polynesia,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[187]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on French Polynesia[188] and other relevant information,

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in accordance with all relevant resolutions, including General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Recalling its resolution 67/265 of 17 May 2013, entitled "Self-determination of French Polynesia", in which it affirmed the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination and independence in accordance with Chapter XI of the Charter and its resolution 1514 (XV), recognized that French Polynesia remains a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter and declared that an obligation exists under Article 73 *e* of the Charter on the part of the Government of France, as the administering Power of the Territory, to transmit information on French Polynesia,

Recalling also the section related to French Polynesia of the Final Document of the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku on 25 and 26 October 2019,[189]

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[190] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including French Polynesia,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned, on a case-by-case basis and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly,

Recognizing also that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of French Polynesia require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

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[186] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[187] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[188] A/AC.109/2022/7.

[189] See A/74/548, annex.

[190] Resolution 1514 (XV).

Reaffirming the inalienable rights of the people of French Polynesia to the ownership, control and disposal of their natural resources, including marine resources and undersea minerals,

Conscious of the responsibility of the administering Power to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of French Polynesia,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, on a case-by-case basis, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territories,

Recognizing the significant health and environmental impacts of nuclear testing conducted by the administering Power in the Territory over a 30-year period, and recognizing also the concerns in the Territory related to the consequences of those activities for the lives and health of the people, especially children and vulnerable groups, as well as the environment of the region, and bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 76/75 of 9 December 2021, entitled "Effects of atomic radiation",

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the environmental, ecological, health and other impacts of the 30-year period of nuclear testing in French Polynesia,[191] prepared pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 71/120 of 6 December 2016,

Recalling also that, in February 2017, the administering Power amended the Act concerning the recognition and compensating of victims of nuclear tests[192] in order to allow for the compensation of a larger number of victims, and that further amendments have been adopted,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

Recalling the admission of French Polynesia as a full member of the Pacific Islands Forum at the forty-seventh Pacific Islands Forum, convened in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, from 8 to 10 September 2016,

Taking note of the statement made by the President of French Polynesia in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), at the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly, in October 2021,[193] including on the Territory's commitment to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Taking note also of the participation of a representative of the Government of the Territory in the regional seminar, which in 2022 was held in Castries from 11 to 13 May,

Noting the invitation extended by the President of French Polynesia to the Special Committee to send a visiting mission to the Territory, as reiterated in the Fourth Committee at the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly,[194]

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Recalling the municipal elections held in March and June 2020, and the territorial elections that were held in April and May 2018,

Recalling also relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of French Polynesia to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions

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[191] A/72/74.

[192] Act No. 2010-2 of 5 January 2010 concerning the recognition and compensating of victims of nuclear tests.

[193] See A/C.4/76/SR.3, paras. 10–15.

[194] Ibid., para. 15.

of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of French Polynesia of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

3. *Takes note* of the statement made by the President of the Territory in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) on 8 October 2019 reaffirming previous calls to delist French Polynesia from the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also takes note of resolution No. 2013-3, adopted by the Assembly of French Polynesia on 30 May 2013, which repealed the resolution of the Assembly adopted in 2011 requesting the reinscription of French Polynesia on that list;

4. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, General Assembly resolution 67/265, which provided for the reinscription of French Polynesia on the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and takes careful note of an independent self-governance assessment of the Territory, presented to the Fourth Committee on 4 October 2016,[195] that the Territory did not meet the full measure of self-government;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in French Polynesia, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

6. *Also calls upon* the administering Power to facilitate a visiting mission to the Territory, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

7. *Regrets* that the administering Power has not responded to the request to submit information on French Polynesia under Article 73 *e* of the Charter since the reinscription of the Territory by the General Assembly in 2013;

8. *Reaffirms* that an obligation exists on the part of the administering Power to transmit information under Chapter XI of the Charter, and requests the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General such information on French Polynesia as called for under the Charter;

9. *Urges* the administering Power to ensure the permanent sovereignty of the people of French Polynesia over their natural resources, including marine resources and undersea minerals, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

10. *Takes note* of the efforts made by the administering Power concerning the recognition and compensation of victims of nuclear tests, and in that regard encourages the administering Power to take steps to this effect;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide continuous updates on the environmental, ecological, health and other impacts of the 30-year period of nuclear testing in French Polynesia, in follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General on the matter, prepared pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 71/120;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to intensify its dialogue with French Polynesia in order to facilitate rapid progress towards a fair and effective self-determination process, under which the terms and timelines for an act of self-determination would be agreed;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of French Polynesia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

[195] See A/C.4/71/SR.3, paras. 71–72.

RESOLUTION 77/140

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[196]

77/140. Question of Guam

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Guam and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[197]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam,[198] which contained the information requested by the General Assembly in resolution 76/96 of 9 December 2021, and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Guam and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[199] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Guam,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[200]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Guam require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Recalling the joint letter dated 29 January 2021 addressed to the administering Power from the Special Rapporteurs on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes,

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Guam in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

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[196] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[197] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[198] A/AC.109/2022/9.

[199] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[200] A/56/61, annex.

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Guam and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United States of America as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Guam and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Guam in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Guam with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[201]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting with concern that a plebiscite on self-determination has been brought to a halt, which followed the ruling[202] of a federal court in the United States, the administering Power, holding that the plebiscite could not be limited to native inhabitants,

Recalling, in this regard, the statement made by a representative of the Governor of Guam at the 2019 Caribbean regional seminar concerning the implications of the judicial case in the light of the nature and essence of the Charter of the United Nations and resolution 1514 (XV),[203]

Cognizant of the efforts made by the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of CHamoru Self-Determination to promote in the Territory the holding of a plebiscite on self-determination and to advance its education campaign on each of the three political status options, and recalling that more than 11,000 native inhabitants had been registered in the Guam decolonization registry to vote in the plebiscite,

Recalling that the administering Power approved a grant to support the self-determination education campaign in the Territory in March 2016,

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[201] See resolution 75/123.

[202] District Court of Guam, *Davis v. Guam et al.*, decision of 8 March 2017, upheld by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on 29 July 2019 and the Supreme Court of the United States on 4 May 2020.

[203] Available at www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars/2019.

Recalling also that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the CHamoru people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible CHamoru voters,

Cognizant of the importance of the administering Power's implementing its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting a call for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Aware that the federal lawsuit by the administering Power over the CHamoru Land Trust programme was filed in September 2017, and noting the ruling[204] issued on 21 December 2018,

Noting the expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, as renewed during the 2022 Pacific regional seminar,

Aware of the existing concerns of the Territory regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the planned transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

Recalling the concerns expressed by the Territory on this subject before the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) at the seventy-second session of the General Assembly,

Recalling also the statement made by the Speaker of the thirty-third Guam legislature before the Fourth Committee at the seventieth session of the General Assembly that the most acute threat to the legitimate exercise of the decolonization of Guam was the incessant militarization of the island by its administering Power, and noting the concern expressed regarding the effect of the escalating military activities and installations of the administering Power on Guam,

Recalling further its resolution 57/140 of 11 December 2002, in which it reiterated that military activities and arrangements by administering Powers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration should not run counter to the rights and interests of the peoples of the Territories concerned, especially their right to self-determination, including independence, and called upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate the remaining military bases in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980 and the territorial Government's concern that immigration into Guam has resulted in the Indigenous CHamorus becoming a minority in their homeland,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Recalling the legislative elections in the Territory that were held in November 2020,[205]

Recalling also relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Guam to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Guam, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

[204] District Court of Guam, *United States v. Guam et al.*, decision of 21 December 2018.

[205] See A/AC.109/2021/9, paras. 3–4.

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Guam to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing work of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of CHamoru Self-Determination, as well as its public education efforts;

5. *Stresses* that the decolonization process in Guam should be compatible with the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[206]

6. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the CHamoru people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding CHamoru self-determination efforts, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter, and stresses the need for continued close monitoring of the overall situation in the Territory;

7. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the CHamoru people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

8. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, and welcomes the recent outreach work by the territorial Government;

9. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the CHamoru people in the development of Guam;

10. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Guam and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Guam and the administering Power;

11. *Also stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Guam, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

13. *Also calls upon* the administering Power to facilitate a visiting mission to the Territory, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

14. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

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[206] Resolution 217 A (III).

15. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[207] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

16. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation and the impact of militarization on the environment, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report on the environmental impact of the military activities of the administering Power in the Territory, as relevant information becomes available;

18. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Guam and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/141

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[208]

77/141. Question of Montserrat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Montserrat and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[209]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat[210] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Montserrat and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[211] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Montserrat,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[212]

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[207] Resolution 70/1.

[208] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[209] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[210] A/AC.109/2022/10.

[211] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[212] A/56/61, annex.

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Montserrat require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Montserrat in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Montserrat and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Montserrat and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Montserrat in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Montserrat with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[213]

Recalling also the statements made by the Premier of Montserrat before the Special Committee in June 2018 and at the 2018 Pacific regional seminar, in which he expressed the view that the previous request made for the removal of Montserrat from the agenda of the Special Committee should be reversed,

Recalling further the information provided by the Premier that Montserrat could not achieve its development goals if its economic dependency continued, compounded by ongoing financial challenges, and that securing funding

[213] See resolution 75/123.

for rebuilding key infrastructure lost and helping evacuees from the 1995 volcanic crisis required an intervention from the Special Committee as a neutral partner,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting with concern the continuing consequences of the 1995 volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the population of the Territory to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory and which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

Acknowledging the continuing assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

Noting the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

Recalling the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Montserrat, as conveyed by the Premier of Montserrat to the Chair of the Special Committee in their meeting on 11 May 2015,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Cognizant of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

Recalling the elections in the Territory that were held in November 2019,[214]

Recalling also the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to Montserrat in December 2019,

Reiterating its appreciation to the administering Power and to the Government and people of Montserrat for the cooperation and assistance extended to the visiting mission,

Reiterating its endorsement of the report, conclusions and recommendations of the visiting mission,[215]

Recalling relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Montserrat to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Montserrat, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Montserrat to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Recalls* the 2010 Constitution of Montserrat and the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward to consolidate the gains provided for in the Constitution;

[214] See A/AC.109/2020/10, para. 3.

[215] A/AC.109/2020/20.

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the participation of the Territory in the work of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

8. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Montserrat and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Montserrat and the administering Power;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Montserrat, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

11. *Commends* the conclusions and recommendations of the visiting mission to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, and to the Government of Montserrat for appropriate action;

12. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to report to the Secretary-General on the steps taken and progress made with regard to the recommendations contained in the report of the visiting mission;

13. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

14. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[216] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

15. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Montserrat and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[216] Resolution 70/1.

RESOLUTION 77/142

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[217]

77/142. Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[218]

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, and stressing principle VI of the annex to resolution 1541 (XV),

Recalling also the provisions of the Nouméa Accord,[219] which, inter alia, underscores the importance of the transfer of powers and skills in a timely manner from the administering Power to the people of New Caledonia,

Reaffirming that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the Indigenous populations,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote equitable political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Recalling the peaceful conduct of the first and second self-determination referendums in New Caledonia on 4 November 2018 and 4 October 2020, respectively, in which the question "Do you want New Caledonia to accede to full sovereignty and become independent?" was asked, in accordance with the Nouméa Accord and the respective decisions of the Committee of Signatories to the Nouméa Accord of March 2018 and November 2019,

Recalling also the meetings held in Paris from 26 May to 1 June 2021 between the administering Power and political parties in New Caledonia,

Taking note of the holding on 12 December 2021 of the third self-determination referendum in New Caledonia subsequent to the decision taken in June 2021 by the administering Power and the challenges involved,

Recalling the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia, submitted to the Human Rights Council at its eighteenth session, held from 12 to 30 September and on 21 October 2011,[220] following his visit to the Territory in February 2011, and stressing the importance of addressing concerns related to the human rights of Indigenous Kanak People, including in eliminating the existing inequalities between the three provinces of the Territory,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region, including through the hosting of New Caledonian delegates in the French diplomatic and consular missions in the region,

Recalling the conclusions of the nineteenth Melanesian Spearhead Group Leaders Summit, under the historic inaugural chairmanship of the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste, held in Nouméa from 19 to 21 June

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[217] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[218] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[219] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

[220] A/HRC/18/35/Add.6, annex.

2013, including the Leaders Declaration of the Group reaffirming the strong commitment to and support, including technical assistance, for the self-determination of New Caledonia, in accordance with the Charter and the Nouméa Accord,

Recalling also the admission of New Caledonia as a full member of the Pacific Islands Forum at the forty-seventh Pacific Islands Forum, convened in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia, from 8 to 10 September 2016,

Recalling further the exchange of letters between the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and the Melanesian Spearhead Group secretariat on the sharing of information on New Caledonia,

Mindful that New Caledonia has entered the most critical phase of its political development, following the holding of the third self-determination referendum on 12 December 2021, a period that requires continued close monitoring by the United Nations of the situation in the Territory in order to help the people of New Caledonia to exercise their right to self-determination in accordance with the objectives set out in the Charter and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[221]

Recalling the Charter of the Kanak people, common base of the fundamental values and principles of the Kanak civilization, which was proclaimed in April 2014 by the customary authorities, Great Chiefs, Chiefs, Presidents of District Councils and Presidents of the Clan Chiefs Councils, as the sole traditional custodians of the Kanak people of New Caledonia, and noting the concern of the Customary Senate that their interests should be adequately heard by the administering Power and territorial Government on matters of importance to the Indigenous People of New Caledonia,

Recalling also the dispatch of two United Nations visiting missions to New Caledonia in 2014 and 2018, which included visits to Paris, as well as the release of the respective reports of the visiting missions of the Special Committee,[222]

Noting with gratitude the strengthened cooperation of the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to New Caledonia, including its facilitation of the 2014 and 2018 visiting missions, as well as the conduct of self-determination referendums in New Caledonia on 4 November 2018, 4 October 2020 and 12 December 2021, in accordance with the Nouméa Accord,

Recalling the successful conduct by New Caledonia of provincial elections on 12 May 2019,

Recalling also the information presented to the Pacific and the Caribbean regional seminars on the implementation of the Third and Fourth International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism since 2014, including the Pacific regional seminar held in Castries from 11 to 13 May 2022, and the relevant recommendations adopted by the Special Committee,

Taking note of the information provided by the administering Power at the Pacific regional seminar in 2022 and at the Caribbean regional seminars held in the Parish of Saint John, Dominica, from 25 to 27 August 2021, in Grand Anse, Grenada, from 2 to 4 May 2019, and in Kingstown from 16 to 18 May 2017, respectively, as well as by New Caledonian parties at the seminars in 2017 and 2022, on developments in the Territory, including on the first referendum on self-determination, and the recommendations adopted by the seminar in 2017, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee for 2017,[223]

Aware of the challenges encountered in the 2014 provincial electoral process, particularly with regard to the work of the special administrative commissions in updating the special electoral roll, the non-existence of the supplementary electoral roll from 1998 and the unavailability of the 1998 general electoral roll prior to 2014, and their potential impact on the referendum on self-determination, and taking note of the positive progress made since 2014 on the electoral process for the self-determination referendum,

Recalling the invitations from the administering Power to the Electoral Assistance Division of the former Department of Political Affairs and the current Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the Secretariat to dispatch electoral expert missions to New Caledonia in May 2016 and in subsequent years to observe the work of the

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[221] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[222] A/AC.109/2014/20/Rev.1 and A/AC.109/2018/20.

[223] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/72/23).

special administrative commissions and the advisory committee of experts for the establishment and revision of the special electoral list, including, in particular, for the self-determination referendums in New Caledonia on 4 November 2018, 4 October 2020 and 12 December 2021, consistent with the Nouméa Accord,

Recalling also the transmission by the administering Power to the Special Committee of the final report of the electoral expert mission to New Caledonia conducted in 2016, as well as of the list of measures implemented by the administering Power to follow up on the recommendations of the mission,

Noting the concerns of the people of New Caledonia regarding the importance of and need for clarity through an educational campaign by the administering Power concerning the potential referendum outcomes, and the relevant measures to this end taken since 2018 by the administering Power,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Territory in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

Recalling relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms its approval* of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022;

2. *Reiterates its endorsement* of the reports, observations, conclusions and recommendations of the United Nations visiting missions to New Caledonia conducted in 2014 and 2018;

3. *Reiterates its appreciation* to the administering Power and the Government of New Caledonia for the close cooperation and assistance extended to the visiting missions;

4. *Reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of New Caledonia to determine freely and fairly their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

5. *Notes* the continuing concerns expressed regarding the challenges encountered in the provincial elections process with respect to the persistent varying interpretations of the restricted electorate provisions and the voter registration appeal process, and encourages efforts by the administering Power and the people of New Caledonia to address in an amicable and peaceful manner the concerns of all stakeholders under the existing relevant laws in the Territory and in France, while also respecting and upholding the spirit and letter of the Nouméa Accord;

6. *Recalls* the peaceful conduct of the self-determination referendums, in accordance with the Nouméa Accord, on 4 November 2018 and on 4 October 2020, resulting in 56.67 per cent against full sovereignty and independence and 43.33 per cent in favour in the first referendum and 53.26 per cent against full sovereignty and independence and 46.74 per cent in favour in the second referendum, and notes the holding of the third self-determination referendum on 12 December 2021 amid challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic and the boycott of the referendum by sectors of New Caledonia's eligible referendum voters, resulting in 96.50 per cent against full sovereignty and independence and 3.50 per cent in favour;

7. *Also recalls* the decision taken by the administering Power that 12 December 2021 would be the date of the third self-determination referendum in New Caledonia, and calls upon the administering Power and all relevant stakeholders in New Caledonia to ensure the peaceful, fair, just and transparent conduct of the next steps of the self-determination process, in accordance with the Nouméa Accord;

8. *Expresses the view* that adequate measures for conducting upcoming consultation, including a just, fair, credible and transparent electoral roll, as provided in the Nouméa Accord, are essential for the conduct of a free, fair and genuine act of self-determination consistent with the Charter and United Nations principles and practices;

9. *Welcomes*, in that respect, the continuous high-level political dialogue and commitment in good faith undertaken by the parties in the framework of the Committee of Signatories to the Nouméa Accord to establish the parameters for the conduct of a conclusive act of self-determination, including the setting of an electoral roll, as provided in the Accord;

10. *Recalls* the outcome of the twelfth meeting of the Committee of Signatories, held on 3 October 2014, which, inter alia, stressed the commitment of the administering Power to enable the people of New Caledonia to decide their future status in a fair, credible, democratic and transparent self-determination process consistent with the Nouméa Accord;

11. *Notes with interest* the convening of the extraordinary meetings of the Committee of Signatories held in Paris on 5 June 2015, 2 November 2017, 27 March 2018, 14 December 2018 and 10 October 2019, regarding the New Caledonia self-determination process, including, in particular, the electoral roll for the referendum and related issues;

12. *Calls upon* France, the administering Power, in the light of the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the visiting missions, to consider further strengthening the education programme to inform the people of New Caledonia about the nature of self-determination so that they may be better prepared to face a future decision on the matter, and requests the Special Committee to provide all available assistance in that regard;

13. *Commends* the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the visiting missions to the Government of France, as the administering Power, and the Government of New Caledonia for appropriate action;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the facilitation by the administering Power of visiting missions to the Territory before the 2018 self-determination referendum, and welcomes the willingness reiterated by the administering Power to the Special Committee to facilitate a new visiting mission to New Caledonia;

15. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of the people of New Caledonia and within the framework of the Nouméa Accord, to maintain their dialogue in a spirit of harmony and mutual respect in order to continue to promote a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in accordance with the Charter and relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV), which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, based on the principle that it is for the people of New Caledonia to choose how to determine their destiny;

16. *Reaffirms* its resolutions 68/87 of 11 December 2013 and 69/97 of 5 December 2014, in which the General Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed that in the absence of a decision by the Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

17. *Welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, particularly the submission on 2 December 2021 on the most recent developments in New Caledonia;

18. *Notes* the continuing concerns expressed by the Kanak people regarding their underrepresentation in governmental and social structures, incessant migratory flows, the impact of mining on the environment, and the relevance of taking into account the interests of local ownership and equity in natural resources development, and the importance of addressing them in a timely manner;

19. *Urges* the administering Power to maintain effective measures that safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of New Caledonia to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the people of New Caledonia;

20. *Commends* the "Cadres for the future" programme, and encourages further enhancement of the training and capacity-building of high-level executives in the public and private sectors in the Territory, particularly in view of the ongoing transfer of powers from the Government of France to New Caledonia, while ensuring that the transfer of powers is undertaken in a manner consistent with the Nouméa Accord;

21. *Recalls* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of Indigenous Peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia, made

in the light of relevant international standards, to assist with ongoing efforts to advance the rights of the Kanak people in the context of the implementation of the Nouméa Accord and the United Nations-supported decolonization process;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to New Caledonia and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after it exercises its right to self-determination;

23. *Welcomes* the strengthening of the economic and social rebalancing initiatives undertaken by the administering Power, and urges its continuation in all areas and communities of the Territory, especially for the well-being of the Kanak Indigenous People;

24. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring the timely transfer of competencies from the administering Power to New Caledonia, provided under the Nouméa Accord;

25. *Encourages* the administering Power, with the cooperation of the Government of New Caledonia, to maintain and enhance safeguards for and guarantees of the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to own, access, use and manage their natural resources, including proprietary rights for their future development;

26. *Recalls* the provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, and notes the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund;

27. *Also recalls* the accession of the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste to the Chair of the Melanesian Spearhead Group, the hosting, for the first time in New Caledonia, in June 2013, of the meetings of officials and leaders of the Group, the successful completion of the chairmanship of the Group by the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste, in June 2015, and the opening, in February 2013, of the Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste unit at the headquarters of the Group secretariat in Port Vila;

28. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Centre to the protection of the Indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

29. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

30. *Takes note* of the information shared by participants from New Caledonia at the Pacific and the Caribbean regional seminars on the implementation of the Third and Fourth International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism held since May 2014, including on measured progress made in the social, economic, political and environmental spheres and more focused efforts, particularly on the rebalancing initiatives and electoral roll concerns, necessary for the long-term shared mutual benefit of all New Caledonians, and urges the administering Power and the Government of New Caledonia to devote appropriate attention to addressing these issues;

31. *Acknowledges* the peaceful conduct of provincial elections in New Caledonia on 12 May 2019, the preceding municipal elections and the subsequent efforts to form a new Government of New Caledonia, and encourages constructive engagement by all stakeholders in further developing New Caledonia for all, including by respecting and upholding the Nouméa Accord;

32. *Welcomes* the renewed decision of the administering Power to invite the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the Secretariat to conduct a mission in order to observe the work of the special administrative commissions and the advisory committee of experts for the establishment and revision of the special electoral list, and looks forward to examining its recommendations, and further encourages the administering Power to facilitate the work undertaken in this regard;

33. *Stresses* the importance of the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

34. *Notes* the socioeconomic, health and related challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to New Caledonia since 2020 and the commendable efforts by the Government of New Caledonia and the administering Power to prevent and stop the spread of the virus in the Territory, and encourages the international community, including the United Nations, to support the provision of timely access to COVID-19 vaccines for the people of New Caledonia;

35. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

36. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 77/143

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[224]

77/143. Question of Pitcairn

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Pitcairn and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[225]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn[226] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Pitcairn and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[227] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Pitcairn,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[228]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Pitcairn require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Pitcairn in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

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[224] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[225] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[226] A/AC.109/2022/12.

[227] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[228] A/56/61, annex.

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Pitcairn and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Pitcairn and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Pitcairn in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Pitcairn with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[229]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting with serious concern that the Territory last participated in the activities of the Special Committee in 2004,

Taking into account the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population, area and access,

Aware that the administering Power and the territorial Government have implemented a governance structure to strengthen administrative capacity in the Territory, based on consultations with the people of the Territory,

Noting that the administering Power and the territorial Government have developed a five-year strategic development plan, covering the period from 2019 to 2024, that sets out the views and aspirations of the people of the Territory for the socioeconomic development of the Territory,

Recalling with concern the findings contained in the final report on the survey commissioned by the Pitcairn Island Council to ascertain whether members of the diaspora had any interest in returning to the Territory and the factors conditioning a decision,[230]

Noting the main challenges to socioeconomic development in the Territory, including the legacy of the child sexual abuse history and the continuing need to maintain stringent child protection procedures, the ageing population and its declining economic activity, with little or no migration to the island, and limited access to and from the island,

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[229] See resolution 75/123.

[230] See A/AC.109/2015/5, para. 14.

Recalling that a marine protected area was established around Pitcairn in September 2016, and noting the Pitcairn Islands marine protected area management plan for the period 2021–2026,[231]

Welcoming the measures taken by the administering Power to improve accessibility to the Territory with the introduction of enhanced transport and shipping services,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Noting the elections that were held in November 2021,[232]

Recalling relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Pitcairn to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Pitcairn, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Pitcairn to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* all efforts by the administering Power and the territorial Government that would further devolve operational responsibilities to the Territory, with a view to gradually expanding self-government, including through the training of local personnel;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support socioeconomic and environmental security in Pitcairn, including as regards demographic matters;

7. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

8. *Notes* the development of a new strategy for repopulation and the creation of a child safeguarding framework in place in Pitcairn;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Pitcairn and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Pitcairn and the administering Power;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote

[231] See A/AC.109/2022/12, para. 41.

[232] Ibid., "The Territory at a glance".

self-government in Pitcairn, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

11. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

12. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[233] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

13. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Pitcairn and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/144

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[234]

77/144. Question of Saint Helena

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Saint Helena and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[235]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena[236] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of Saint Helena and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[237] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including Saint Helena,

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[233] Resolution 70/1.

[234] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[235] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[236] A/AC.109/2022/13.

[237] Resolution 1514 (XV).

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[238]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of Saint Helena require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of Saint Helena in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of Saint Helena and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to Saint Helena and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of Saint Helena in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of Saint Helena with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[239]

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[238] A/56/61, annex.

[239] See resolution 75/123.

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Recalling the statement made by a representative of the Legislative Council of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Managua from 19 to 21 May 2015,[240]

Recalling also the extension by the administering Power to Saint Helena of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[241] in March 2017,

Welcoming the re-engagement of the Territory with the Special Committee in 2022,

Taking into account the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

Aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment, transport and communications infrastructure, and of the adoption of the Sustainable Economic Development Plan 2018–2028,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Recalling the general election that was held in September 2019,[242]

Noting the introduction of a ministerial system of government on the basis of the Constitutional Amendment Order that came into effect in October 2021,

Recalling relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of Saint Helena to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of Saint Helena, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of Saint Helena to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the 2009 Constitution of the Territory and the further development of democratic and good governance, including the governance reform process;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socioeconomic development challenges of the Territory;

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[240] Available at www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars/2015.

[241] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[242] See A/AC.109/2020/13, para. 32.

7. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

8. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of Saint Helena and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between Saint Helena and the administering Power;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in Saint Helena, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

10. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

11. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[243] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

12. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

13. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of Saint Helena and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/145

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[244]

77/145. Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Taking note of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[245]

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[243] Resolution 70/1.

[244] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[245] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 76/101 of 9 December 2021,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Noting with appreciation also the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

Recalling the status of Tokelau as an associate member of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and of the Pacific Islands Forum,

Acknowledging the World No Tobacco Day Award for the western Pacific region granted to Tokelau in 2017 by the World Health Organization for its policy entitled "Tobacco-Free Tokelau by 2020", and expressing hope that this could contribute to the health and well-being of the Territory and its peoples,

Cognizant that New Zealand and Tokelau signed, on 21 November 2003, a document entitled "Joint statement of the principles of partnership", which sets out the rights and responsibilities of the two partners, including in relation to the question of self-determination for Tokelau,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association, its decision in August 2005 to hold in February 2006 a referendum on self-determination on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007, and bearing in mind also that the two referendums did not produce the two-thirds majority of valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change the status of Tokelau from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand,

Noting the holding of free and fair elections in the Territory on 23 January 2020, and noting also the most recent change of the Ulu-o-Tokelau during the General Fono, on 19 May 2022,

Recalling the 2013 constitutional consultations, to be further considered by the Constitution Committee, which were driven by the people of Tokelau and which aimed at developing a model of government structure that is culturally appropriate and sensitive to their current situation, culminating in the approval and ratification of the national symbol of the Territory, along with the constitution, national anthem and national flag,

Cognizant of the statement made by the Ulu-o-Tokelau at the Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014, and also of the written statement for the Pacific regional seminar held in Saint George's from 9 to 11 May 2018 that the self-determination process of the Territory could not be addressed in isolation from the threat of climate change, the rise in sea level and the challenges to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[246] and bearing in mind the development aspirations of Tokelau as expressed in its revised National Strategic Plan 2021–2026, including an ambition to confidently declare that Tokelau has made significant progress in its development journey and that it is ready and capable of proceeding to be a self-governing nation,

Recalling the official launch in April 2017 of the climate change strategy of Tokelau, entitled "Living with change: an integrated national strategy for enhancing the resilience of Tokelau to climate change and related hazards, 2017–2030", and the implementation plan for the first five years of the strategy, from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2022, and welcoming the launch of the Tokelau national greenhouse gas inventory report on 11 April 2019,

[246] Resolution 70/1.

Recalling also the announcement of the administering Power that, as requested by the Government of Tokelau, it had submitted a formal declaration to the United Nations to extend the territorial application of both the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[247] and the Paris Agreement[248] to Tokelau,

Recalling further the statements made by the representatives of the Government of New Zealand, as the administering Power, on 17 June 2019, at a session of the Special Committee, and at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Grand Anse, Grenada, in May 2019, which underlined the shared vision with Tokelau of building a stronger partnership, including on the governance and more effective management of public services, finances and infrastructure assets, with emphasis on quality health care and education, gender empowerment, disaster risk mitigation and resilience-building, and enhancing inter-atoll connectivity, including the vessel to support search and rescue missions, medical evacuations and general transport between the atolls, which entered into service in April 2019,

Recalling relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Noting the landmark first-ever international submarine fibre-optic cable connecting to Tokelau on 20 September 2021 for strengthening information and communications technology for the sustainable development of Tokelau,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the General Fono on 23 May 2022 to revisit the views of the people of Tokelau and revive the dialogue on the question of self-determination for Tokelau in the lead-up to the 100th anniversary of New Zealand administration of Tokelau in early 2026;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils) since 2004, and notes that further discussion is planned on the recommendations in the report on the devolution review, compiled in 2012, and the additional recent efforts in Tokelau in addressing a future governance model that accounts for, inter alia, the Territory's religious faith, culture and identity;

3. *Recalls with satisfaction* the democratic elections in Tokelau held on 23 January 2020 for the tenth General Fono and the subsequent swearing-in of the Ulu-o-Tokelau on 8 March 2021, and notes the subsequent change of the Ulu-o-Tokelau on 19 May 2022 at the General Fono;

4. *Recognizes* the ongoing socioeconomic development challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to Tokelau and the close cooperation with the administering Power, New Zealand, and neighbouring countries, and commends Tokelau on its record of no transmission of the virus to its people, thus far;

5. *Notes with appreciation* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements, including investment that has enabled Tokelau to be directly connected by an undersea fibre-optic cable on 20 September 2021 for faster and more reliable Internet services, improved maritime transport infrastructure and services, quality health care and education and support for the fisheries sector;

6. *Takes note* of the National Strategic Plan 2021–2026 of Tokelau, which further prioritizes good governance, human and infrastructure development, telecommunication, transportation, sustainability and climate change adaptation, as an important framework for the Territory's sustainable future;

7. *Acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, including through new shipping service assets and shipping infrastructure development, and budget support for the delivery of education services ranging from early childhood education to foundation courses for tertiary study, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme and the World Health Organization;

8. *Recalls* the completion by Tokelau in 2013 of the Tokelau Renewable Energy Project with the support of the administering Power and the receipt by the Government of the Renewable Energy Award granted by the New Zealand Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority;

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[247] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[248] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

9. *Also recalls* measures taken by Tokelau to safeguard the health of its peoples through its "Tobacco-Free Tokelau by 2020" policy, launched in 2017, and encourages the necessary support for its implementation from the administering Power, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders;

10. *Acknowledges* the need of Tokelau for continued support from the international community and its desire to become part of the discussions on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the impacts of climate change and the protection of the environment and oceans, and in this regard encourages, as appropriate, assistance towards the implementation of the climate change strategy of Tokelau, entitled "Living with change: an integrated national strategy for enhancing the resilience of Tokelau to climate change and related hazards, 2017–2030";

11. *Appreciates* the efforts of the administering Power to include in its national reporting to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change the climate mitigation action taken by Tokelau, and also recalls the milestone achievement of Tokelau in the launch of its national greenhouse gas inventory report on 11 April 2019;

12. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

13. *Welcomes* the ongoing cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the Pacific region towards Tokelau and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs, including at the fiftieth Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting, held in Tuvalu in August 2019, as an associate member, represented by the Ulu-o-Tokelau;

14. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

15. *Recognizes* the positive actions taken by the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau;

16. *Commends* the renewed strong commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continuing to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 77/146

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[249]

77/146. Question of the Turks and Caicos Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the Turks and Caicos Islands and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[250]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands[251] and other relevant information,

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[249] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[250] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[251] A/AC.109/2022/15.

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[252] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the Turks and Caicos Islands,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[253]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to the Turks and Caicos Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia, from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which

[252] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[253] A/56/61, annex.

enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[254]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting the statement made by a representative of the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the 2022 Pacific regional seminar,[255]

Welcoming the re-engagement of the Territory with the Special Committee in 2022,

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006 at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

Recalling also the endorsement by the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community of the report of the Community's fact-finding mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2013, which called for, inter alia, a referendum on self-determination and a mechanism for amending the Constitution,

Recalling further that, in March 2014, the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community received an update on the situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, which they will continue to monitor, and that they expressed their support for the full restoration of democracy in the Territory on terms driven by its people,

Recalling with concern the devastating damage and impact caused in the Territory by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in 2017,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Recalling the general election that was held in February 2021,[256]

Recalling also relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the Turks and Caicos Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

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[254] See resolution 75/123.

[255] Available at www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars/2022.

[256] See A/AC.109/2021/15, para. 18.

4. *Takes note* of the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in support of a democratically elected territorial Government and of the full restoration of democracy in the Territory as decided by its people;

5. *Notes* the continuing debate on constitutional reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process;

6. *Stresses* the importance of having in place in the Territory a constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of its people, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation;

7. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

8. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

9. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

10. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the territorial Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socioeconomic development across the Territory;

11. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Turks and Caicos Islands and the administering Power;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Turks and Caicos Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

13. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

14. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[257] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

15. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

16. *Reiterates its call upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to provide all the assistance necessary to the Territory, support the

[257] Resolution 70/1.

recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction, in particular in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria that impacted the Territory in 2017;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Turks and Caicos Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/147

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[258]

77/147. Question of the United States Virgin Islands

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the United States Virgin Islands and examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[259]

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands[260] and other relevant information,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territory are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the United States Virgin Islands and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Expressing concern that, more than 60 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[261] there still remain 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the United States Virgin Islands,

Conscious of the importance of continuing the effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2030 and the plan of action for the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,[262]

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the people of the United States Virgin Islands require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Concerned by the use and exploitation of the natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories by the administering Powers for their benefit, by the use of the Territories as international financial centres to the detriment of the world economy and by the consequences of any economic activities of the administering Powers that are contrary to the interests of the people of the Territories, as well as to resolution 1514 (XV),

Convinced that any negotiations to determine the status of the Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of the Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-

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[258] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[259] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[260] A/AC.109/2022/16.

[261] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[262] A/56/61, annex.

case basis, and that the views of the people of the United States Virgin Islands in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the people of the United States Virgin Islands and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the United States of America as the administering Power and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territory, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territory,

Aware of the importance both to the United States Virgin Islands and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the United States Virgin Islands in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the people of the United States Virgin Islands with their inalienable right to self-determination and in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Welcoming the Pacific regional seminar on the theme "Advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and beyond", held by the Special Committee in Castries and hosted by the Government of Saint Lucia from 11 to 13 May 2022, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess progress made and address challenges faced in the decolonization process, review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its commitment to implementing its historic task,

Recalling the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2021–2030 as the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[263]

Recalling the statement made by the Lieutenant Governor, as a representative of the Government of the United States Virgin Islands, at the 2019 Caribbean regional seminar,[264]

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Food Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Aware of the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as its requests to the administering Power and the United Nations system for assistance to its public education programme,

Cognizant that a draft constitution was proposed in 2009 and subsequently forwarded to the administering Power, which in 2010 requested the Territory to consider its objections to the draft constitution,

Cognizant also that the Fifth Revision Convention, established and convened in 2012, was mandated to ratify and approve the final revised draft constitution,

[263] See resolution 75/123.

[264] Available at www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars/2019.

Expressing its concern about the extended time spent on the constitutional review process, and stressing the importance of the Special Committee receiving updated information in due time regarding the status of the drafting of the constitution,

Recalling the referendum held on 3 November 2020 on convening a constitutional convention to consider adopting the Revised Organic Act of the United States Virgin Islands, or portions of it, as the Constitution of the Territory,

Stressing the importance of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

Recalling with concern the devastating damage and impact caused in the Territory by Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in 2017,

Recalling the election that was held in November 2020,[265]

Recalling also relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of the United States Virgin Islands to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization of the United States Virgin Islands, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of the United States Virgin Islands to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Welcomes* the proposal of a draft constitution emanating from the Territory in 2009, as a result of the work of the United States Virgin Islands Fifth Constitutional Convention, for review by the administering Power, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the proposed constitution and its implementation, once agreed upon in the Territory, and to regularly provide the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with relevant updates in this regard, including on the process for convening a constitutional convention following the referendum held in November 2020;

6. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

7. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Office of Self-Determination and Constitutional Development in the University of the Virgin Islands, with funding from the administering Power, to address the issue of self-determination, including political status and constitutional education;

8. *Reiterates its call* for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories;

9. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

[265] See A/AC.109/2021/16, para. 2.

10. *Stresses* that the Territory should continue to participate in the activities of the Special Committee, including regional seminars, in order to provide the Committee with up-to-date information regarding the decolonization process;

11. *Also stresses* the importance of the Special Committee being apprised of the views and wishes of the people of the United States Virgin Islands and enhancing its understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the United States Virgin Islands and the administering Power;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the United States Virgin Islands, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

13. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Power under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territory, and requests the administering Power to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economy of the Territory;

14. *Takes into account* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[266] including the Sustainable Development Goals, stresses the importance of fostering the economic and social sustainable development of the Territory by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems that supports, inter alia, economic, social and human development, while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges, and strongly urges the administering Power to refrain from undertaking any kind of illicit, harmful and unproductive activities, including the use of the Territory as an international financial centre, that are not aligned with the interest of the people of the Territory;

15. *Requests* the Territory and the administering Power to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territory against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to monitor environmental conditions in the Territory and to provide assistance to the Territory, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

16. *Reiterates its call upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to provide all the assistance necessary to the Territory, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction, in particular in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria that impacted the Territory in 2017;

17. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the United States Virgin Islands and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/148

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 167 to 3, with 1 abstention,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[267]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras,

[266] Resolution 70/1.

[267] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: France

77/148. Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[268]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution 76/104 of 9 December 2021,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options for self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General, in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Stressing the importance of the visiting missions of the Special Committee in contributing substantially to the dissemination of information on decolonization,

Recognizing that the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, must play a bigger role, in accordance with resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

Recalling the issuance by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Global Communications and the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, and encourages the continued updating and wide dissemination of the information leaflet on what the United Nations can do to assist Non-Self-Governing Territories, published in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/129 of 14 December 2006, and updated for the United Nations website on decolonization;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options for self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to this end requests the Department of Global Communications, through the

[268] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

United Nations information centres in the relevant regions, to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and stresses that the Department of Global Communications and the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs continue to be jointly responsible for maintaining and enhancing the United Nations decolonization website;

4. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications and the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all of the media available, including publications, radio, television, the Internet and social media, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(a) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help to improve the exchange of information;

(d) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(f) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* the Department of Global Communications to webcast the formal meetings of the Special Committee;

7. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/149

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 12 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 124 to 3, with 42 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/408, para. 33)[269]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the

[269] The draft resolution recommended in the report of the Fourth Committee was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine

77/149. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2022,[270]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 76/105 of 9 December 2021, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 75/123 of 10 December 2020, by which it declared the period 2021–2030 the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways and means to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the Fourth International Decade,

Regretting that measures to eliminate colonialism by 2020, as called for in its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010, have not been successful,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the continued efforts of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the formal participation of all administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee with regard to the relevant Territories under their administration in accordance with Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of certain administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

Noting that the Pacific regional seminar was held in Castries from 11 to 13 May 2022,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 75/123, by which it declared the period 2021–2030 the Fourth International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence, on a case-by-case basis;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[271] and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[272]

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[270] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/77/23).

[271] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[272] Resolution 217 A (III).

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms its support once again* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power of each Territory on the agenda of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions and seminars;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee to develop and finalize, as soon as possible, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

7. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(a) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

(b) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(c) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend to the General Assembly, as appropriate, the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(d) To develop and finalize, as soon as possible and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories, to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(e) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(f) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(g) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(h) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, inter alia, to facilitate visiting missions of the Committee to the Territories on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions on specific Territories;

10. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, where applicable, are an effective means of ascertaining the situation of the peoples of the Territories, in accordance with

relevant United Nations resolutions on specific Territories, and therefore requests the Special Committee to undertake at least one visiting mission a year;

11. *Recalls* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[273] updated as necessary, represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

12. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

14. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to terminate military activities and eliminate military bases in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

15. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Powers to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

16. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, President pro tempore of the Special Committee, to meet informally at least once a year with the Chair and the Bureau of the Committee during the intersessional period, in order to explore innovative ways of using his good offices to help to advance the decolonization agenda on a case-by-case basis;

19. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee covering its work during 2022, in which the programme of work for 2023 is outlined, in particular the Pacific regional seminar and a visiting mission to one of the Territories on its agenda, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions on specific Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the resources at the disposal of the Special Committee in order to ensure that the Committee has the funding, facilities and services commensurate with its envisioned yearly programmes, as mandated in relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, especially, in paragraph 8 of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/247

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 87 to 26, with 53 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/400, para. 14)[274]

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[273] A/56/61, annex.

[274] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

* *In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Gabon, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Australia, Austria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Estonia, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Liberia, Lithuania, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Romania, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Andorra, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Monaco, Montenegro, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu

77/247. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[275]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[276] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[277] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[278] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming its relevant resolutions, including resolution 75/98 of 10 December 2020, as well as those adopted at its tenth emergency special session,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and stressing the need for their implementation,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[279] and the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Special Committee,[280]

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967,[281] as well as of other relevant recent reports of the Human Rights Council,

Taking note also of the report of the independent international commission of inquiry established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution S-30/1,[282]

Stressing the need to ensure accountability for all violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in order to end impunity, ensure justice, deter further violations, protect civilians and promote peace,

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[275] Resolution 217 A (III).

[276] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[277] Ibid.

[278] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[279] A/77/501.

[280] A/76/333.

[281] A/HRC/49/87.

[282] A/77/328.

Taking note of the recent report by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan,[283]

Deeply regretting that 55 years have passed since the onset of the Israeli occupation, and stressing the urgent need for efforts to reverse the negative trends on the ground and to restore a political horizon for advancing and accelerating meaningful negotiations aimed at the achievement of a peace agreement that will bring a complete end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and the resolution of all core final status issues, without exception, leading to a peaceful, just, lasting and comprehensive solution of the question of Palestine,

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law, and recalling in this regard its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[284] and recalling also relevant General Assembly resolutions,

Noting in particular the Court's reply, including that the construction of the wall being built by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and its associated regime are contrary to international law,

Taking note of its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Noting the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law conventions, as well as other international treaties,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[285] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Reaffirming further the obligation of the States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention[286] under articles 146, 147 and 148 with regard to penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties,

Recalling the statement of 15 July 1999 and the declarations adopted on 5 December 2001 and on 17 December 2014[287] by the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Reaffirming that all States have the right and the duty to take actions in conformity with international law and international humanitarian law to counter deadly acts of violence against their civilian population in order to protect the lives of their citizens,

Stressing the need for full compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process, including the Sharm el-Sheikh understandings, and the implementation of the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[288]

Stressing also the need for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, to allow for the freedom of movement of the Palestinian civilian population within and into and out of the Gaza Strip,

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[283] A/77/90-E/2022/66.

[284] See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

[285] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[286] Ibid.

[287] A/69/711-S/2015/1, annex.

[288] S/2003/529, annex.

Gravely concerned by the tensions and violence in the recent period throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem and including with regard to the holy places of Jerusalem, including the Haram al-Sharif, and deploring the loss of innocent civilian life,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and in the protection of the unique spiritual, religious and cultural dimensions of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

Reaffirming also the obligation to respect the historic status quo, the special significance of the holy sites, and the importance of the City of Jerusalem for the three monotheistic religions,

Recognizing that security measures alone cannot remedy the escalating tensions, instability and violence, and calling for full respect for international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, including for the protection of civilian life, as well as for the promotion of human security, the de-escalation of the situation, the exercise of restraint, including from provocative actions and rhetoric, and the establishment of a stable environment conducive to the pursuit of peace,

Expressing grave concern about the continuing systematic violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including that arising from the excessive use of force and military operations causing death and injury to Palestinian civilians, including children, women and non-violent, peaceful demonstrators, as well as journalists, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel; the arbitrary imprisonment and detention of Palestinians, some of whom have been imprisoned for decades; the use of collective punishment; the closure of areas; the confiscation of land; the establishment and expansion of settlements; the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory in departure from the Armistice Line of 1949; the destruction of property and infrastructure; the forced displacement of civilians, including attempts at forced transfers of Bedouin communities; and all other actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and demanding the cessation of all such unlawful actions,

Gravely concerned by the ongoing demolition by Israel, the occupying Power, of Palestinian homes, as well as of structures, including schools, provided as international humanitarian aid, in particular in and around Occupied East Jerusalem, including if carried out as an act of collective punishment in violation of international humanitarian law, which has escalated at unprecedented rates, and by the revocation of residence permits and eviction of Palestinian residents of the City of Jerusalem,

Deploring the continuing and negative consequences of the conflicts in and around the Gaza Strip and the high number of casualties among Palestinian civilians in the recent period, including among children, and any violations of international law, and calling for full respect for international humanitarian and human rights law and for the principles of legality, distinction, precaution and proportionality,

Gravely concerned about the disastrous humanitarian situation and the critical socioeconomic and security situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from the prolonged closures and severe economic and movement restrictions that in effect amount to a blockade and deepen poverty and despair among the Palestinian civilian population, and about the short- and long-term detrimental impacts of this situation and the widespread destruction and continued impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, on the human rights situation,

Recalling with grave concern the United Nations country team report of August 2012, entitled "Gaza in 2020: a liveable place?",

Recalling the statement by the President of the Security Council of 28 July 2014,[289]

Stressing the need for the full implementation by all parties of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009) of 8 January 2009 and General Assembly resolution ES-10/18 of 16 January 2009,

Stressing also that the situation in the Gaza Strip is unsustainable and that a durable ceasefire agreement must lead to a fundamental improvement in the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip, including through the sustained and regular opening of crossing points, and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians on both sides, and regretting the lack of progress made in this regard,

[289] S/PRST/2014/13; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

Gravely concerned by reports regarding serious human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during the successive military operations in the Gaza Strip,[290] and reiterating the necessity for serious follow-up by all parties of the recommendations addressed to them towards ensuring accountability and justice,

Stressing the need for protection of human rights defenders engaged in the promotion of human rights issues in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, to allow them to carry out their work freely and without fear of attacks and harassment,

Expressing deep concern about the Israeli policy of closures and the imposition of severe restrictions, including through hundreds of obstacles to movement, checkpoints and a permit regime, all of which obstruct the freedom of movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian goods, and the follow-up and access to donor-funded projects of development cooperation and humanitarian assistance, throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and impair the Territory's contiguity, consequently violating the human rights of the Palestinian people and negatively impacting their socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, which remains dire in the Gaza Strip, and the efforts aimed at rehabilitating and developing the Palestinian economy, and calling for the full lifting of restrictions,

Expressing grave concern that thousands of Palestinians, including many children and women, as well as elected representatives, continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres under harsh conditions, including unhygienic conditions, solitary confinement, the extensive use of administrative detention of excessive duration without charge and denial of due process, lack of proper medical care and widespread medical neglect, including for prisoners who are ill, with the risk of fatal consequences, and denial of family visits, that impair their well-being, and expressing grave concern also about the ill-treatment and harassment and all reports of torture of any Palestinian prisoners,

Expressing deep concern about the hunger strikes by Palestinian prisoners in protest of the harsh conditions of their imprisonment and detention by the occupying Power, while taking note of agreements reached on conditions of detention in Israeli prisons and calling for their full and immediate implementation,

Recalling the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules)[291] and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[292] and calling for respect for those Rules,

Recalling also the prohibition under international humanitarian law of the deportation of civilians from occupied territories,

Deploring the practice of withholding the bodies of those killed, and calling for the release of the bodies that have not yet been returned to their relatives, in line with international humanitarian law and human rights law, in order to ensure dignified closure in accordance with their religious beliefs and traditions,

Stressing the need for the prevention of all acts of violence, harassment, provocation and incitement by extremist Israeli settlers and groups of armed settlers, especially against Palestinian civilians, including children, and their properties, including homes, agricultural lands and historic and religious sites, including in Occupied East Jerusalem, and deploring the violation of the human rights of Palestinians in this regard, including acts of violence leading to death and injury among civilians,

Convinced of the need for an international presence to monitor the situation, to contribute to ending the violence and protecting the Palestinian civilian population and to help the parties to implement the agreements reached, in this regard recalling the importance of the mandate and the positive contribution of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron, and regretting the unilateral decision by the Government of Israel not to renew its mandate,

Stressing the need for an immediate and complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror,

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[290] See A/63/855-S/2009/250; S/2015/286, annex; A/HRC/12/48; and A/HRC/29/52.

[291] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[292] Resolution 65/229, annex.

Stressing also that the protection of civilians is a critical component in ensuring peace and security, as well as the need for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, consistent with the provisions and obligations of international humanitarian law,

Stressing further the need to respect the right of peaceful assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the Palestinian civilian population[293] and the observations made therein on ways and means for ensuring the safety, protection and well-being of the Palestinian civilian population under Israeli occupation,

Noting the continued efforts and tangible progress made in the Palestinian security sector, and noting also the continued cooperation that benefits both Palestinians and Israelis, in particular by promoting security and building confidence,

Urging the parties to observe calm and restraint and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, especially in areas of religious and cultural sensitivity, including in East Jerusalem, and to take every possible step to defuse tensions and promote conditions conducive to the credibility and success of the peace negotiations,

Emphasizing the right of all people in the region to the enjoyment of human rights as enshrined in the international human rights covenants,

1. *Reiterates* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity, and demands that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 and cease immediately all measures and actions taken in violation and in breach of the Convention;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all measures contrary to international law, as well as discriminatory legislation, policies and actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people, including the killing and injury of civilians, the arbitrary detention and imprisonment of civilians, the forced displacement of civilians, including attempts at forced transfers of Bedouin communities, the transfer of its own population into the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, the destruction and confiscation of civilian property, including home demolitions, including if carried out as collective punishment in violation of international humanitarian law, and any obstruction of humanitarian assistance, and that it fully respect human rights law and comply with its legal obligations in this regard, including in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions;

3. *Calls for* urgent measures to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilian population in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and as called for by the Security Council in its resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the protection of the Palestinian civilian population, notably the observations made therein, including the possible expansion of existing protection mechanisms to prevent and deter violations, and calls for continued efforts within the United Nations human rights framework regarding the legal protection and safety of the Palestinian civilian population;

5. *Calls for* full cooperation by Israel with the relevant special rapporteurs and other relevant mechanisms and inquiries of the Human Rights Council, including the facilitation of entry to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, for monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation therein according to their respective mandates;

6. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all of its settlement activities, the construction of the wall and any other measures aimed at altering the character, status and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, all of which, inter alia, gravely and detrimentally impact

[293] A/ES-10/794.

the human rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, and the prospects for achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides, and calls for the full respect and implementation of all relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions in this regard, including Security Council resolution 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016;

7. *Calls for* urgent attention to the plight and the rights, in accordance with international law, of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in Israeli jails, including those on hunger strike, also calls for efforts between the two sides for the further release of prisoners and detainees, and further calls for respect for the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);

8. *Condemns* all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially any use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians in violation of international law, particularly in the Gaza Strip, including against journalists, medical personnel and humanitarian personnel, which have caused extensive loss of life and vast numbers of injuries, including among children and women;

9. *Also condemns* all acts of violence by militants and armed groups, including the firing of rockets, against Israeli civilian areas, resulting in loss of life and injury;

10. *Reiterates its demand* for the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1860 (2009);

11. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply with its legal obligations under international law, as mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice and as demanded in General Assembly resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003, and that it immediately cease the construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, dismantle forthwith the structure situated therein, repeal or render ineffective all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto, and make reparations for all damage caused by the construction of the wall, which has gravely impacted the human rights and the socioeconomic living conditions of the Palestinian people;

12. *Reiterates* the need for respect for the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory and for guarantees of the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the Palestinian territory, including movement into and from East Jerusalem, into and from the Gaza Strip, between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and to and from the outside world;

13. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its imposition of prolonged closures and economic and movement restrictions, including those amounting to a blockade on the Gaza Strip, and in this regard to fully implement the Agreement on Movement and Access and the Agreed Principles for the Rafah Crossing, both of 15 November 2005, in order to allow for the sustained and regular movement of persons and goods and for the acceleration of long overdue and massive reconstruction needs and economic recovery in the Gaza Strip, while noting the tripartite agreement facilitated by the United Nations in this regard;

14. *Stresses* the urgent need to address the continuing health crisis in the Gaza Strip, including by ensuring the provision of adequate infrastructure, medical supplies and equipment, alongside expertise, to deal with the increasing caseload of injuries requiring complex treatment in the context of the protests in the Gaza Strip;

15. *Urges* Member States to continue to provide emergency assistance to the Palestinian people to alleviate the financial crisis and the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation, particularly in the Gaza Strip;

16. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their inalienable human rights, including their right to self-determination, as a matter of urgency, in the light of the passage of more than 55 years of the Israeli occupation and the continued denial and violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people;

17. *Emphasizes* the need to preserve and develop the Palestinian institutions and infrastructure for the provision of vital public services to the Palestinian civilian population and the promotion of human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and urges in this regard the implementation of the agreement

signed in Cairo on 12 October 2017,[294] which would be an important step towards achieving Palestinian unity and lead to the effective functioning of the Palestinian Government, including in the Gaza Strip, under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas, consistent with the Palestine Liberation Organization commitments and the Quartet principles;

18. *Decides*, in accordance with Article 96 of the Charter of the United Nations, to request the International Court of Justice, pursuant to Article 65 of the Statute of the Court, to render an advisory opinion on the following questions, considering the rules and principles of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, international humanitarian law, international human rights law, relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council, and the advisory opinion of the Court of 9 July 2004:

(a) What are the legal consequences arising from the ongoing violation by Israel of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, from its prolonged occupation, settlement and annexation of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including measures aimed at altering the demographic composition, character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, and from its adoption of related discriminatory legislation and measures?

(b) How do the policies and practices of Israel referred to in paragraph 18 (a) above affect the legal status of the occupation, and what are the legal consequences that arise for all States and the United Nations from this status?

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including with regard to the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories.

[294] S/2017/899, annex.

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RESOLUTION 77/150

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/440, para. 12)[1]

77/150. Information and communications technologies for sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/189 of 17 December 2021 on information and communications technologies for sustainable development, as well as previous resolutions on the issue,[2]

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2022/15 of 21 July 2022 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, as well as previous resolutions on the issue,[3]

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[4]

Recognizing the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as the United Nations focal point for science, technology and innovation for development and as a forum in the examination of science and technology questions and the role of science and technology as enablers for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the advancement of understanding of science and technology policies, particularly in respect of developing countries, and the formulation of recommendations and guidelines on science and technology matters for development within the United Nations system,

Recognizing also the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as the United Nations focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Recognizing further the role of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, which includes the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, the inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and the online platform, as a tool to facilitate multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships among Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations entities and other stakeholders in order to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including through forging partnerships, such as the Partnership in Action on STI for SDGs Road Maps,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[2] Resolutions 56/183, 57/238, 59/220, 60/252, 62/182, 63/202, 64/187, 65/141, 66/184, 67/195, 68/198, 69/204, 70/184, 71/212, 72/200, 73/218, 74/197 and 75/202.

[3] Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46, 2008/3, 2009/7, 2010/2, 2011/16, 2012/5, 2013/9, 2014/27, 2015/26, 2016/22, 2017/21, 2018/28, 2019/24, 2020/12 and 2021/28.

[4] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[5] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[6] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[7] and endorsed by the Assembly,[8]

Recalling also the references to information and communications technologies contained in the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and reiterating calls for close alignment between the World Summit on the Information Society process and the 2030 Agenda, as well as other relevant intergovernmental outcomes,

Recalling further the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,[9] held in New York on 15 and 16 December 2015, in which it took stock of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, addressed potential information and communications technology gaps and identified areas for continued focus,

Reaffirming its common desire and commitment to the World Summit on the Information Society vision as laid out in the Geneva Declaration of Principles,

Reaffirming also the outcome of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, which provides an overview of implementation action lines, challenges, vision and priority areas, and recognizing the need for people to have media and information literacy skills, which are important in order to fully participate in an inclusive information society,

Recognizing that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing new technologies, 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 for development, and recalling the need to emphasize quality of access to bridge digital and knowledge divides, using a multidimensional approach that includes speed, stability, affordability, language, training, capacity-building, local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,[10]

Taking note also of the report on the economic impact of broadband in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, jointly prepared by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States and the International Telecommunication Union, as well as the United Nations E-Government Survey prepared by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat,

Noting the call for the continuation of annual reports on the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, to the Economic and Social Council, and reaffirming the role of the Commission, as set forth in Council resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, in assisting the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit,

Noting also the holding of the twenty-fifth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development from 28 March to 1 April 2022, and looking forward to the twenty-sixth session, which will have as priority themes "Technology and innovation for cleaner and more productive and competitive production" and "Ensuring safe water and sanitation for all: a solution by science, technology and innovation", thus providing a platform for all stakeholders to share experiences and pursue partnerships for capacity-building,

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[5] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

[6] See resolution 59/220.

[7] See A/60/687.

[8] See resolution 60/252.

[9] Resolution 70/125.

[10] A/77/62-E/2022/8.

Taking note of the report of the High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation, entitled "The age of digital interdependence", submitted to the Secretary-General on 10 June 2019, and further taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Road map for digital cooperation", presented on 11 June 2020,[11] as well as the establishment of the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology,

Noting the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum, jointly organized annually by the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, and noting also the virtual holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2022, from March to June 2022,

Taking note of the report of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development entitled *The State of Broadband 2022: Accelerating Broadband for New Realities*, which provides an evaluation of the progress made towards achieving the Broadband Commission's advocacy targets for broadband and the state of broadband development worldwide,

Recognizing the fact that information and communications technologies are critical enablers of economic development and investment, with consequential benefits for employment and social welfare, by lowering barriers to economic participation, and that the increasing pervasiveness of information and communications technologies within society has had profound impacts on the ways in which Governments deliver services, businesses relate to consumers and citizens participate in public and private life,

Noting the outcome and agreed policy recommendations of the fifth report of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy on its fifth session,[12] which was held from 27 to 29 April 2022,

Noting also the holding of E-commerce Week, from 25 to 29 April 2022, in Geneva, under the theme "Data and digitalization for development",

Taking note of the *Digital Economy Report 2021* of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which examines the role of cross-border data flows for development in maximizing equitable development gains, while minimizing risks and impacts of a potential fragmentation in the digital space, and recognizing the need to continue discussions on the connection between data and sustainable development, including data governance, while taking into account the multiple dimensions of data,

Noting the tax challenges arising from digitalization of the economy and the importance of ensuring that tax is paid where value is created, and noting also international efforts to address this issue,

Stressing, however, that recent progress notwithstanding, important and growing digital divides remain between and within developed and developing countries in terms of the availability, affordability and use of information and communications technologies and access to broadband, stressing also the urgent need to close digital divides, including with regard to such issues as the affordability of the Internet, and to ensure that the benefits of information and communications technologies, including new technologies, are available to all, in this regard reaffirming its commitment to significantly increasing access to information and communications technologies and striving to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in the least developed countries by 2020, and noting the many efforts to help to bridge digital divides and expand access, including the Connect 2030 Agenda for Global Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology, including Broadband, for Sustainable Development,

Recalling the vision of a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promoting their sustainable development and improving their quality of life, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[13]

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[11] A/74/821.

[12] TD/B/EDE/5/4.

[13] Resolution 217 A (III).

Stressing the necessity for all forms of development cooperation, including aid flows, to promote digital transformation,

Recalling the Working Group on the Digital Gender Divide of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development and the recommendations for action in bridging the gender digital divide contained in its progress report, and taking note of the report of the Working Group on Education of the Broadband Commission entitled "Digital skills for life and work",

Recognizing that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all of the Sustainable Development Goals, and emphasizing the need to target science, technology and innovation strategies to address the empowerment of women and girls and to reduce inequalities, including the gender digital divide,

Noting with great concern the fact that a gender digital divide persists in women's access to and use of information and communications technologies, including in education, employment and other areas of economic and social development, and in this regard welcoming the many initiatives that focus on access, skills and leadership to promote the equal participation of women and girls in the digital age, such as the International Girls in ICT Day of the International Telecommunication Union and the Global Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age, known as the Equals Partnership,

Recognizing the need to focus on capacity-development policies and sustainable support to further enhance the impact of activities and initiatives at the national and local levels aimed at providing advice, services and support, with a view to building an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society,

Recognizing also that harnessing the benefits of digital technologies for inclusive, equitable and quality education and lifelong learning opportunities requires the advancement of connectivity, capacities and content, and acknowledging the need for access to broadband Internet and technology devices, digital inclusion and literacy, and to incorporate digital competencies into the education system for the capacity-building of educators and students,

Noting that a range of topics continues to emerge on issues related to the access to and use and applications of information and communications technologies and their effects on economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development,

Recognizing the important role that information and communications technologies can play in protecting the environment and addressing climate change,

Reaffirming that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, and emphasizing that progress towards the vision of the World Summit on the Information Society should be considered not only as a function of economic development and the spreading of information and communications technologies but also as a function of progress with respect to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Reaffirming also that Internet governance, including the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, should continue to follow the provisions set forth in the outcomes of the summits held in Geneva and Tunis,

Recalling the efforts undertaken by the host countries in organizing the meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens in 2006, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2007, in Hyderabad, India, in 2008, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009, in Vilnius in 2010, in Nairobi in 2011, in Baku in 2012, in Bali, Indonesia, in 2013, in Istanbul, Türkiye, in 2014, in João Pessoa, Brazil, in 2015, in Guadalajara, Mexico, in 2016, in Geneva, in 2017, in Paris in 2018, in Berlin in 2019, in Katowice, Poland, in 2021 and the meeting held in Addis Ababa in 2022, and recalling also the meeting convened virtually by the Secretary-General in 2020,

Recalling also the convening of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation on Public Policy Issues Pertaining to the Internet, based on the proposal by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development regarding the structure and composition of the Working Group, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/125 of 16 December 2015 and endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2017/21, and taking note of its work,

Noting that information and communications technologies can help to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and noting also that, inter alia, the International Telecommunication Union has an important role in supporting Member States in the implementation of the Goals,

Noting also the convening of the World Telecommunication Development Conference by the International Telecommunication Union in Kigali from 6 to 16 June 2022, under the theme "Connecting the unconnected to achieve sustainable development",

Noting further that technological change includes new and powerful tools for development, and mindful of its impacts, opportunities and challenges and that Governments, the private sector, international organizations, civil society and the technical and academic communities should take into account the social, economic, ethical, cultural and technical issues related to rapid technological advancements in order to deepen their understanding of how to harness their potential to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming the value and principles of multi-stakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the World Summit on the Information Society process since its inception, and recognizing that the effective participation, partnership and cooperation of Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders, within their respective roles and responsibilities, especially with balanced representation from developing countries, have been and continue to be vital in developing the information society,

Recognizing the important contributions and full participation of all stakeholders to help bridge, in their roles and responsibilities, the digital divides,

Acknowledging that differences in individual stakeholders' capabilities to both use and create information and communications technologies represent a knowledge divide that perpetuates inequality,

Conscious of the challenges faced by States in preventing and combating the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes, including by terrorists, and emphasizing the need to continue international cooperation in this regard and to reinforce technical assistance and capacity-building activities, at their request, for the prevention, prosecution and punishment of such use in accordance with national and international law,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

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,

Noting with grave concern that almost half of the world's population, especially women and girls and people in vulnerable situations, as well as more than four in five people in the least developed countries, do not have access to the Internet, and noting that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbates inequalities caused by the digital divides, since the poorest and the most vulnerable who are the hardest hit are also those who lag behind the most in access to information and communications technologies,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, trade and development, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, into the global economy;

2. *Welcomes* the remarkable evolution and diffusion of information and communications technologies, underpinned by the contributions of both the public and private sectors, which have seen penetration into almost all corners of the globe, created new opportunities for social interactions, enabled new business models and contributed to economic growth and development in all other sectors, while noting the unique and emerging challenges related to their evolution and diffusion;

3. *Recognizes* the potential of information and communications technologies to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[14] and other internationally agreed development goals, noting that they can accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, accordingly urges all Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders to integrate information and communications technologies into their approaches to implementing the Goals, and requests United Nations system entities facilitating the World Summit on the Information Society action lines to review their reporting and workplans to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

4. *Reaffirms its commitment* 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 quality and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development;

5. *Stresses* the important role played by the private sector, civil society and technical communities in information and communications technologies;

6. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders from both developed and developing countries, within their respective roles and responsibilities, to ensure the effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, through, inter alia, the promotion of national, regional and international multi-stakeholder partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms in a joint effort and dialogue with developing countries, including the least developed countries, development partners and actors in the information and communications technologies sector;

7. *Welcomes* the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, invites Member States, as well as international organizations, foundations and the private sector, to provide voluntary financial contributions and technical assistance to ensure its full and effective implementation;

8. *Reiterates* the call for support for the full operationalization of all components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and to explore a voluntary funding model in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and relevant United Nations entities;

9. *Notes* the progress that has been made by United Nations system entities in cooperation with national Governments, regional commissions and other stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society, and encourages the use of those action lines for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

10. *Also notes* that the digital economy is an important and growing part of the global economy and that connectivity is correlated with increases in gross domestic product, recognizes the critical importance of expanding the participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, in the digital economy, and further notes that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development could explore the connection between data and sustainable development;

11. *Encourages* countries to take advantage of capacity-building mechanisms and opportunities from the entire United Nations system in this regard;

12. *Urges* a continued focus on maximizing development gains from e-commerce, through initiatives such as eTrade for All, launched by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which provides a new approach to trade development through electronic exchanges by allowing developing countries to more easily navigate the supply of technical assistance for building capacity in e-commerce readiness and by enabling donors to have a clear picture of the programmes that they could fund;

13. *Recognizes* in this regard that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has initiated and implemented rapid e-trade readiness assessments of the least developed countries in cooperation with other donors

[14] Resolution 70/1.

and organizations in order to raise awareness of the opportunities and challenges related to leveraging e-commerce in the least developed countries;

14. *Looks forward* to the holding of the third meeting of the Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy, on 28 and 29 November 2022, and the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy, from 10 to 12 May 2023, which will focus on how to make data work for the 2030 Agenda;

15. *Notes* the holding of E-commerce Week from 4 to 8 December 2023;

16. *Welcomes* the work of the Information for All Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which aims to assist Member States in formulating policies to bridge digital divides and ensure equitable knowledge societies, and also welcomes the holding of Global Media and Information Literacy Week from 24 to 31 October 2022;

17. *Recognizes* that, despite recent progress and significant gains, there is still uneven growth in access to and the use of information and communications technologies, and expresses concern over the substantial continued digital and broadband divides between and within developed and developing countries, including the fact that while 90 per cent of people use the Internet in developed countries, only 57 per cent of the population of developing countries is online, and that the cost of access is higher in developing countries in relation to average household income, resulting in a lack of affordable access to information and communications technologies;

18. *Stresses* the need to provide universal, meaningful and affordable access to the Internet by 2030, particularly in all developing countries, welcomes efforts by the United Nations to assist countries, upon their request, in achieving this, and calls upon all stakeholders, including the international community, to support further actions, including investment, to improve broadband access and connectivity in developing countries;

19. *Recognizes* the importance of broadband connectivity to users in rural and remote areas, and in this regard notes that small and non-profit community operators, including community networks and other affordable, scalable and inclusive technology and business models that provide last-mile connectivity solutions, as appropriate and among others, can provide these services through, inter alia, appropriate regulatory measures that allow them to gain access to basic infrastructure;

20. *Stresses* the importance of rapid technological change in ensuring food security and nutrition by 2030, and information technology in agriculture systems with due regard for sustainability;

21. *Encourages* research and development, and the development of viable strategies that could result in further competitiveness, investment and rapid reductions in the cost of information and communications technologies, and urges all relevant stakeholders to address the growing digital divides between and within countries through, inter alia, strengthened enabling policy environments at all levels, legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to increased investment and innovation, public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and international cooperation to improve affordability, education, capacity-building, multilingualism, cultural preservation, investment and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms;

22. *Acknowledges* the importance of more inclusive and equitable access to the benefits of the emerging digital economy, and recognizes that collective efforts are needed towards new rule-setting that not only favours large digital enterprises, but also provides for an open, fair and non-discriminatory business environment, including support for the access of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including those owned or operated by women, to finance, information and markets, while protecting and empowering consumers;

23. *Recognizes* that a gender digital divide persists and that, worldwide, 62 per cent of men use the Internet compared with 57 per cent of women, notes that in the least developed countries only 19 per cent of women use the Internet, compared with 31 per cent of men, and calls upon all stakeholders to close the gender digital divide, ensure the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation of all women in the information society and women's access to information and communications technologies for development, including women's and girls' access to new technologies, in this respect reiterates its request for relevant United Nations system entities, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to support the implementation and monitoring of the action lines contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society by enhancing the emphasis on gender equality and all women's empowerment, and reaffirms the commitment to ensuring women's full participation in decision-making processes related to information and communications

technologies, including policies and approaches to promote women's online safety to facilitate their participation in the digital world, and to address any potential negative impacts of digital technologies on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and committing to eliminating, preventing and responding to all forms of violence against women and girls;

24. *Notes* the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional level, facilitated by the regional commissions, as observed in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels;

25. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates and strategic plans, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the importance of allocating adequate resources in this regard;

26. *Acknowledges* the extension of the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum through 2025, as set out in the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

27. *Recognizes* the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on various matters, as reflected in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, including discussion of public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to submit, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels, information on the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum,[15] in particular those on enhancing the participation of developing countries;

28. *Stresses* the need for the enhanced participation of Governments and stakeholders from all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in all meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, and in this regard invites Member States, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to support the participation of Governments and all other stakeholders from developing countries in the Forum itself, as well as in the preparatory meetings;

29. *Notes* the work of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, established by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/125, to develop recommendations on how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda, and also notes that the Working Group ensured the full involvement of Governments and other relevant stakeholders, in particular from developing countries, taking into account all their diverse views and expertise;

30. *Also notes* that the Working Group held five meetings between September 2016 and January 2018 at which it discussed inputs from Member States and other stakeholders, as stipulated by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/125;

31. *Recalls* the report of the Chair of the Working Group,[16] which includes references to the full texts of all proposals and contributions, and expresses its gratitude to the Chair and all participants who submitted inputs and contributed to the work of the Working Group;

32. *Welcomes* the good progress made by the Working Group in many areas and the fact that consensus seemed to emerge on some issues, while significant divergence of views in a number of other issues persisted, and in that regard regrets that the Working Group could not find agreement on recommendations on how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda;

33. *Recognizes* the importance of enhanced cooperation in the future, to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, and notes the need for continued dialogue and work on the implementation of enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda;

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[15] A/67/65-E/2012/48 and A/67/65/Corr.1-E/2012/48/Corr.1.

[16] See E/CN.16/2018/CRP.3.

34. *Encourages* the use of and engagement with forums and expertise available within relevant United Nations bodies, such as the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, by all relevant stakeholders to promote global digital cooperation;

35. *Recognizes* that a lack of access to affordable and reliable technologies and services remains a critical challenge in many developing countries, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries, countries in situations of conflict, post-conflict countries and countries affected by natural disasters, and that all efforts should be deployed to reduce the price of information and communications technologies and broadband access, bearing in mind that deliberate interventions, including through research and development and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, may be necessary to spur the development of lower-cost connectivity options;

36. *Also recognizes* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in engaging with and accessing new technologies, such as an appropriate enabling environment, sufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity, as well as issues related to technology ownership, setting standards and technology flows, and in this regard urges all stakeholders to consider ensuring appropriate financing of digital development and adequate means of implementation, including strengthened capacity-building of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, towards a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy;

37. *Further recognizes* the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies as critical enablers of sustainable development and to overcome digital divides, and stresses that capacity-building for the productive use of such technologies should be given due consideration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[17]

38. *Notes* that, while a solid foundation for capacity-building in information and communications technologies has been laid in many areas with regard to building the information society, there is still a need for continuing efforts to address the ongoing challenges, especially for developing countries and the least developed countries, and draws attention to the positive impact of broadened capacity development that involves institutions, organizations and entities dealing with information and communications technologies and Internet governance issues;

39. *Recognizes* the importance of assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to address the challenges and opportunities in relation to the use of the Internet and e-commerce to develop their international trade capacities, among other things;

40. *Also recognizes* the importance of the free flow of information and knowledge, and the need to reduce disparities in information flows at all levels, as the amount of information distributed worldwide grows and the role of communication becomes all the more important, and acknowledges that the mainstreaming of information and communications technologies in school curricula, open access to data, the fostering of competition, the creation of transparent, predictable, independent and non-discriminatory regulatory and legal systems, proportionate taxation and licensing fees, access to finance, the facilitation of public-private partnerships, multi-stakeholder cooperation, national and regional broadband strategies, efficient allocation of the radio frequency spectrum, infrastructure-sharing models, community-based approaches and public access facilities have in many countries facilitated significant gains in connectivity and sustainable development;

41. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to keep the goal of bridging digital divides, in their different forms, an area of priority concern, to put into effect sound strategies that contribute to the development of e-government and to continue to focus on pro-poor information and communications technology policies and applications, including access to broadband at the grass-roots level, with a view to narrowing the digital divides among and within countries and, in turn, building information and knowledge societies;

42. *Notes* the commitments made in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and recognizes that official development assistance and other concessional financial flows for information and communications technologies can make significant contributions to development outcomes, in particular where they can reduce the risk of public and

[17] Resolution 69/313, annex.

private investment, and increase the use of information and communications technologies to strengthen good governance and tax collection;

43. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to support more comprehensively those countries that are trailing in the digital economy in order to reduce the digital divides, strengthen the international enabling environment for value creation and build capacities in both the private and public sectors;

44. *Recognizes* the critical importance of private sector investment in information and communications technology infrastructure, content and services, encourages Governments to create legal and regulatory frameworks conducive to increased investment and innovation, and also recognizes the importance of public-private partnerships, universal access strategies and other approaches to that end;

45. *Encourages* the promotion of digital solutions through access to and use of digital public goods, which may include open-source software, open data, open artificial intelligence models, open standards and open content that adhere to international and domestic laws, in unlocking the full potential of rapid technological change to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

46. *Welcomes* the holding of the seventh annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, takes note of its intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations,[18] looks forward to further advancement in the follow-up process, and welcomes the work of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, the progress made in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the holding of the seventh annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals;

47. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

48. *Recognizes* the important role of information and communications technologies for attaining the Sustainable Development Goals and for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and calls upon all stakeholders in the information and communications technologies sector, including Governments and the United Nations system, to fully consider the health and socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as they strengthen their efforts to bridge the digital divides within and between developed and developing countries, with particular attention to the poorest and most vulnerable, as well as women and girls, and to ensuring affordable and reliable connectivity, the promotion of digital access and digital inclusion, and the expansion of accessible and inclusive distance-learning solutions and digital health services;

49. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Secretary-General, in his report entitled "Our Common Agenda",[19] to improve digital cooperation, with a view to bridging digital divides and accelerating the positive contribution that digital technologies can play in society, including towards achieving the 2030 Agenda;

50. *Looks forward* to the development of a global digital compact to strengthen digital cooperation through an open and inclusive process, taking into account the work being done in the United Nations and in relevant processes and forums, and takes note of the role of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology in supporting this effort;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Economic and Social Council, an action-oriented report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution, taking into account the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the review process of the World Summit on the Information Society, the summary by the Co-Chairs of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals[20] and other relevant processes, as part of his annual report on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels;

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[18] See E/FFDF/2022/3.

[19] A/75/982.

[20] E/HLPF/2022/6.

52. *Invites* the Co-Chairs of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals in 2023 to include an update on the midterm reviews of the science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals in the Co-Chairs' summary;

53. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Information and communications technologies for sustainable development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 77/151

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/441/Add.1, para. 8)[21]

77/151. International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/178 of 21 December 2001, 57/235 of 20 December 2002, 58/197 of 23 December 2003, 59/221 of 22 December 2004, 60/184 of 22 December 2005, 61/186 of 20 December 2006, 62/184 of 19 December 2007, 63/203 of 19 December 2008, 64/188 of 21 December 2009, 65/142 of 20 December 2010, 66/185 of 22 December 2011, 67/196 of 21 December 2012, 68/199 of 20 December 2013, 69/205 of 19 December 2014, 70/187 of 22 December 2015, 71/214 of 21 December 2016, 72/202 of 20 December 2017, 73/219 of 20 December 2018, 74/201 of 19 December 2019, 75/203 of 21 December 2020 and 76/190 of 17 December 2021,

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

Recognizing the need to ensure that the benefits of trade are more widely shared,

Reaffirming World Trade Organization decision WT/MIN(15)/48-WT/L/982 of 19 December 2015 on the implementation of preferential treatment in favour of services and service suppliers of the least developed countries and increasing their participation in services trade and decision WT/L/508/Add.1 of 25 July 2012 on accession by the least developed countries, encouraging progress on the implementation of the World Trade Organization work programme on small economies, which supports their efforts towards sustainable development, as also reflected in the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[22] and stressing that Aid for Trade and targeted trade-related capacity-building are essential to integrating developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, into the international trading system,

Recognizing the critical role of women as producers and traders and the need to address their specific challenges in order to facilitate their equal and active participation in domestic, regional and international trade,

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[21] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[22] Resolution 69/15, annex.

Recognizing also that multilateral rules and disciplines are the best guarantee against protectionism and are fundamental to the transparency, predictability and stability of international trade,

Noting the commitments to working to ensure that bilateral, regional and plurilateral trade agreements complement the multilateral trading system, recognizing that they can play an important role in complementing global liberalization initiatives, and in this regard recalling the entry into force of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, on 30 May 2019, and welcoming ongoing efforts to fully operationalize the Agreement, including the commencement of actual trading under the Agreement aimed at doubling intra-African trade to deliver economic transformation and strengthen Africa's resilience, including food security, COVID-19 recovery and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

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,

Noting with concern the fragile and highly uncertain global socioeconomic outlook, persisting negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitical tensions and conflicts and current multiple crises, which increased pressure on food, energy and finance, affecting many countries around the world and their ability to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

Deeply concerned that the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted trade, transport, tourism, cross-border travel, commodity markets, investment, debt service and financial flows, including remittances, with significant impacts on the poorest and the most vulnerable and the operation of global value chains, affecting all sectors of the economy, including micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and people's lives, especially in developing and least developed countries, compounding the challenges posed by climate change, which have had a devastating impact on sustainable development and humanitarian needs, including on poverty eradication, reduction of inequalities, including gender inequality, livelihoods, ending hunger, food security and nutrition, education, environmentally sound waste management and access to health care, particularly in developing countries, including countries in special situations, as well as countries facing specific challenges and those most affected by the pandemic and its socioeconomic consequences, and that restrictive trade measures and the lack of transparency and cooperation within the multilateral trading system have affected access for all to safe, quality, effective and affordable COVID-19 vaccines, other essential goods and basic and nutritious foodstuffs,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development[23] and the note by the Secretary-General;[24]

2. *Reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for inclusive growth and poverty eradication and that it contributes to the promotion of sustainable development, structural transformation and industrialization, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Underscores* that a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system should contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, providing policy space for national development objectives, poverty eradication and sustainable development, consistent with relevant international rules and countries' commitments, and promote export-led growth in the

[23] A/77/15 (Part I) and A/77/15 (Part II).

[24] A/77/207.

developing countries through, inter alia, preferential trade access for developing countries, targeted special and differential treatment that responds to the development needs of individual countries, and the elimination of trade barriers that are inconsistent with World Trade Organization agreements;

4. *Recalls* the ministerial decision of 7 December 2013 on duty-free and quota-free market access for least developed countries,[25] recognizes that nearly all developed country members of the World Trade Organization provide either full or nearly full duty-free and quota-free market access to least developed country products and that a number of developing country members of the World Trade Organization also grant a significant degree of duty-free and quota-free market access to least developed country products, and takes note of the adoption of trading arrangements that further extend preferential market access for the benefit of other developing States;

5. *Welcomes* the commitment of World Trade Organization members to work towards the necessary reform of the Organization, with the aim of improving all its functions and effectively addressing the challenges facing global trade; this work shall be member-driven, open, transparent, inclusive and must address the interests of all members;

6. *Reaffirms* that stable trade flows are essential to urgently addressing the multiple global crises, inter alia, of food, energy and finance faced by developing countries, as well as enhancing food security and nutrition in these countries;

7. *Underscores* the urgent need to keep markets, including for food, fertilizer and agriculture, open, equitable, transparent, non-discriminatory and predictable by eliminating trade-restrictive measures and distortions, speculations and hoarding through the reform of the multilateral trade rules on agriculture, according to World Trade Organization mandates, and to ensure sustained food security and nutrition of countries, particularly the least developed and net food-importing developing countries;

8. *Encourages* cooperation among countries to improve agricultural productivity and trade with a view to increasing the availability, accessibility and affordability of food to help address global food security;

9. *Notes with concern* that certain forms of support for agricultural producers is either trade-distorting or harmful to nature and health, and reaffirms its commitment to correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, highlights the need to address trade-distorting domestic support in agriculture, and looks forward to continuing the World Trade Organization negotiations consistent with existing mandates to further reform agricultural trade rules, with a view to achieving concrete and positive results at the thirteenth Ministerial Conference;

10. *Stresses* the continuing importance of the provision and mobilization of new and additional means of implementation, such as climate finance, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and capacity-building to developing countries, for expanding trade in renewable energy, that can contribute to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy and in line with their national development priorities, including through making clean and renewable energy technologies available for all;

11. *Recognizes* the role of services to global economic output and employment and in supporting global and regional connectivity and business continuity in times of crises and post-crisis recovery, in this respect underlines the critical role of services, digital technology and creative economy, and notes that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on services trade and services sectors, particularly for developing countries, including the least developed countries;

12. *Reaffirms* the importance of promoting regional economic integration of developing countries to foster trade recovery and development, and in this regard welcomes ongoing efforts to fully operationalize the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area, including the commencement of actual trading under the Agreement aimed at doubling intra-African trade to deliver economic transformation and strengthen Africa's resilience, including food security, COVID-19 recovery and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and notes the progress made in the implementation of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement;

[25] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(13)/44.

13. *Reiterates* that States will not be able to achieve the ambitious Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[26] without a revitalized and enhanced global partnership and comparably ambitious means of implementation and that a revitalized global partnership will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, bringing together Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources;

14. *Reaffirms* the commitments made through the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[27] in, inter alia, international trade as an important action area for sustainable development;

15. *Recommits firmly* to promoting a rules-based, non-discriminatory, open, fair, inclusive, equitable and transparent multilateral trading system, with the World Trade Organization at its core, as well as meaningful trade liberalization;

16. *Welcomes* the successful conclusion of the twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Geneva from 12 to 17 June 2022, under the presidency of the Government of Kazakhstan;

17. *Emphasizes* the need to continue combating protectionism in all its forms and to rectify any trade-distorting measures that are inconsistent with World Trade Organization rules, recognizing the right of countries, in particular developing countries, to fully utilize flexibilities consistent with their World Trade Organization commitments and obligations, and emphasizes that the work of the World Trade Organization shall continue to promote sustainable economic development with provisions for special and differential treatment remaining integral;

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ministerial decision on the TRIPS Agreement that was agreed to at the twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization to authorize the use of the subject matter of a patent required for the production and supply of COVID-19 vaccines without the consent of the right holder to the extent necessary to address the COVID-19 pandemic, in accordance with the provisions of article 31 of the TRIPS Agreement,[28] and recognizes that the members of the World Trade Organization will decide on whether to extend the ministerial decision to cover the production and supply of COVID-19 diagnostics and therapeutics;

19. *Calls for* enhancing the capacity of the multilateral trading system to increase pandemic and disaster preparedness and resilience through a multifaceted response, including by strengthening the resilience of global supply chains, including short-term measures such as trade facilitation, transparency and restraint in relation to export restrictions on vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics supplies, as well as the rapid scaling-up and expansion of vaccine production globally, including in developing countries, and welcomes the outcome on the World Trade Organization response to the COVID-19 pandemic and preparedness for future pandemics;

20. *Welcomes* the decision at the twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization not to impose export restrictions on foodstuffs purchased for non-commercial humanitarian purposes by the World Food Programme,[29] and calls for the effective implementation and monitoring of the Marrakesh Ministerial Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries, including in partnership with relevant international organizations;[30]

21. *Underlines* that any emergency measures introduced to address food security concerns shall minimize trade distortions as far as possible, be temporary, targeted, transparent and be notified and implemented in accordance with World Trade Organization rules, and underscores that particular regard should be given to the effect that such measures have on developing countries, including the least developed and net food-importing developing countries;

22. *Welcomes* the adoption of the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies[31] at the twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization regarding the Sustainable Development Goal target 14.6, and urges the members of

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[26] Resolution 70/1.

[27] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[28] See World Trade Organization, ministerial decision on the TRIPS Agreement (WT/MIN(22)/30), adopted on 17 June 2022.

[29] See World Trade Organization, ministerial decision on World Food Programme food purchases exemption from export prohibitions or restrictions (WT/MIN(22)/29), adopted on 17 June 2022.

[30] See World Trade Organization, ministerial declaration on the emergency response to food insecurity (WT/MIN(22)/28), adopted on 17 June 2022.

[31] World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(22)/W/22.

the World Trade Organization to promptly ratify or accept this agreement according to their domestic procedures, aiming for an expedited entry into force, and encourages members to continue negotiations on outstanding issues, with a view to making recommendations by the thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization for additional provisions that would achieve a comprehensive agreement on fisheries subsidies, including through further disciplines on certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing country members and least developed country members should be an integral part of these negotiations;

23. *Underlines* the importance of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation annexed to the Protocol amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization in improving transparency, expediting the movement, release and clearance of goods, including goods in transit, and thereby reducing trade costs, and in this regard encourages its full and effective implementation, including through enhanced support towards its implementation;

24. *Urges* the international community to adopt urgent and effective measures to eliminate the use of unilateral economic, financial or trade measures that are not authorized by relevant organs of the United Nations, and that are inconsistent with the principles of international law or the Charter of the United Nations or that contravene the basic principles of the multilateral trading system and that affect, in particular, but not exclusively, developing countries;

25. *Reiterates* the important role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and in contributing to supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

26. *Recalls* the holding of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, on the theme "From inequality and vulnerability to prosperity for all", held in Bridgetown from 3 to 7 October 2021, and the adoption of its outcome document, the Bridgetown Covenant,[32] and commits to work through the three pillars – research and analysis, consensus-building and technical cooperation – to contribute to the implementation, monitoring and review of the 2030 Agenda and the relevant Sustainable Development Goals;

27. *Takes note* of the *Creative Economy Outlook 2022* of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, which reports on the successful implementation of the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, 2021, and how creative economy advances the Sustainable Development Goals;

28. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and developments in the international trading system, including concrete recommendations to accelerate the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in this regard, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International trade and development".

RESOLUTION 77/152

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/441/Add.2, para. 8)[33]

[32] United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, The Bridgetown Covenant: from inequality and vulnerability to prosperity for all (TD/541/Add.2), adopted on 7 October 2021.

[33] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

77/152. International financial system and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity", as well as its resolutions 57/241 of 20 December 2002, 58/202 of 23 December 2003, 59/222 of 22 December 2004, 60/186 of 22 December 2005, 61/187 of 20 December 2006, 62/185 of 19 December 2007, 63/205 of 19 December 2008, 64/190 of 21 December 2009, 65/143 of 20 December 2010, 66/187 of 22 December 2011, 67/197 of 21 December 2012, 68/201 of 20 December 2013, 69/206 of 19 December 2014, 70/188 of 22 December 2015, 71/215 of 21 December 2016, 72/203 of 20 December 2017, 73/220 of 20 December 2018, 74/202 of 19 December 2019, 75/204 of 21 December 2020 and 76/192 of 17 December 2021,

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

Recalling the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,[34]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[35] its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[36] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[37] Agenda 21,[38] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[39] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[40]

Recalling further the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[41] recognizing the work undertaken by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference, and recalling its progress report,[42]

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[34] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[35] Resolution 55/2.

[36] *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.

[37] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992,* vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[38] Ibid., annex II.

[39] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[40] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[41] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[42] A/64/884.

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[43]

Appreciating the fact that the Summit of the Group of 20 held in Hangzhou, China, on 4 and 5 September 2016, with the broad participation of developing countries, including the Chair of the Group of 77, endorsed the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as an important contribution to the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda, recalling that the Summit of the Group of 20 held in Hamburg, Germany, on 7 and 8 July 2017 endorsed the Hamburg Update: Taking Forward the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recalling also that the Summit of the Group of 20 held in Buenos Aires on 30 November and 1 December 2018 endorsed the Buenos Aires Update: Moving Forward the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recalling further that the Summit of the Group of 20 held in Osaka, Japan, on 28 and 29 June 2019 endorsed the Osaka Update on the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recalling that the Summit of the Group of 20, held virtually on 21 and 22 November 2020, endorsed the Riyadh Update on the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recalling also that the Summit of the Group of 20 held in Rome on 30 and 31 October 2021 endorsed the Rome Update on the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recalling further that the Summit of the Group of 20 held in Bali, Indonesia, on 15 and 16 November 2022 endorsed the Bali Update on the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Group of 20 Development Commitments, and looking forward to their implementation, while urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage in an inclusive and transparent manner with other States Members of the United Nations in its work in order to ensure that the initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the United Nations system,

Noting the holding of the twenty-fifth Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 15 to 18 June 2022, and noting also the Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond Initiative,

Taking note of the proposal by the Secretary-General, in his report entitled "Our Common Agenda", regarding a biennial summit between the members of the Group of 20 and of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General and the heads of the international financial institutions,[44]

Welcoming the establishment of the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance, chaired and convened by the Secretary-General, and taking note of its briefs on the three-dimensional crisis,

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,

Noting with great concern also that the COVID-19 pandemic, and the social and economic crisis that it has triggered, geopolitical tensions and conflicts have amplified underlying risks in the international financial system and brought to the fore the growing importance of non-economic risks, including climate risks, as well as opportunities and risks associated with the rapid digitization of the economy, that women, young people and informal and low-skilled workers face a higher share of job losses, that many micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises have had to close or are at risk of closing amid uncertain prospects for economic recovery and the emergence of new variants of the coronavirus, that most developing countries lack the resources to implement large-scale monetary and fiscal policy responses and that debt risks and liquidity constraints remain elevated for many developing countries, leading to a risk of a diverging and uneven recovery,

[43] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[44] See A/75/982.

Recognizing the steps that the international community, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Group of 20, along with regional financial arrangements and development banks, has taken to respond to the crisis through increased global liquidity and debt relief measures for the poorest countries, and recognizing also that the COVID-19 crisis along with the current multiple crises have exposed and exacerbated gaps and vulnerabilities in the international system and underscored the importance of strengthening the global financial safety net and the need to work together to help to build a more resilient and sustainable global economy and that more remains to be done, also noting that the scale and prolonged duration of the crisis call for continued concerted and inclusive efforts to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic on economies and people and to ensure a more inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery,

Recognizing also that the COVID-19 pandemic and the remaining effects of the world financial and economic crisis have undermined debt sustainability and progress towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, especially in developing countries, and stressing the need to better prepare for such crises that may happen in the future, including by addressing the lessons learned, improving confidence, sustaining economic growth, investing in the adoption of resilience measures and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including young people, older persons and people with disabilities, and by continuing to promote global economic stability and the underlying institutional reforms required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the continuing fragility of the global economy, the slow pace of the restoration of global growth and trade, increasing protectionism and inward-looking policies, the highest inflation in decades, rising interest rates, and increasing debt vulnerabilities, with increasing systemic risks that threaten financial stability, including in developing countries,

Noting the growing usage of local currencies in cross-border payments, including for trade and investment, from the standpoint that it can contribute to reducing vulnerabilities,

Expressing concern at the continued decline in correspondent banking relationships, impacting the ability to send and receive international payments, with potential consequences for the cost of remittances, which remain high, affecting the most vulnerable, such as migrants, financial inclusion and international trade, among other areas, and thus for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as set forth in its Charter, including, inter alia, to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character, and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of common ends, and reiterating the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting development,

Recognizing the contribution of the original and reconvened Panel of Eminent Persons of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the context of the United Nations sustainable development pillar and United Nations reform, as well as the contribution of the United Nations system to sustainable finance and investments in the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing also the contribution of the independent team of advisers to the Economic and Social Council dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Recognizing also that adequate incentives for international and private investors to adopt longer-term investment strategies can support the achievement of sustainable development and potentially reduce capital market volatility,

Emphasizing that the international financial system should bolster sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, sustainable development and job creation, promote financial inclusion and support efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and hunger, in particular in developing countries, while allowing for the coherent mobilization of all sources of financing for development,

Taking note of the work of the United Nations in the area of external debt sustainability and development,

Recognizing the importance of scaling up international tax cooperation, and in this regard welcoming the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and the support to tax authorities of developing countries through the Addis Tax Initiative, which contribute to the mobilization of domestic resources for the Sustainable Development Goals and the curbing of illicit financial flows and tax evasion,

Recognizing also the need to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations, and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings in order to improve the quality of ratings, acknowledging the efforts of the Financial Stability Board and others in this area, and affirming the commitment to continue ongoing work on these issues, while noting with concern that some countries stated that the fear of a credit rating downgrade discouraged them from accessing the Group of 20 and Paris Club Debt Service Suspension Initiative,

Acknowledging the 2016 implementation of quota and governance reforms at the International Monetary Fund and the 2018 agreement on shareholding reforms at the World Bank Group, including a general capital increase, a selective capital increase and a financial sustainability framework, the conclusion of the fifteenth general quota review by the Board of Governors of the Fund in February 2020, and the twentieth replenishment of the International Development Association, with a financing package amounting to 93 billion United States dollars, and acknowledging also that, in October 2016, the Chinese renminbi officially became the fifth currency in the special drawing rights basket, pursuant to the decision taken by the Executive Board of the Fund in November 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[45]

2. *Recognizes* the need to continue and intensify efforts to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, reiterates the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national efforts to ensure sustainable development, including strong, sustained, balanced, inclusive and equitable economic growth, and that all men and women, in particular the poor and vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources and appropriate financial services, and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement,[46] and encourages the international financial institutions to align their programmes and policies with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[47] in accordance with their mandates;

3. *Notes* that the United Nations, on the basis of its universal membership and legitimacy, provides a unique and key forum for discussing international economic issues and their impact on development, and reaffirms that the United Nations is well positioned to participate in various reform processes aimed at improving and strengthening the effective functioning of the international financial system and architecture, while recognizing that the United Nations and the international financial institutions have complementary mandates that make the coordination of their actions crucial;

4. *Recognizes* the important efforts undertaken nationally, regionally and internationally to respond to the challenges posed by the global financial and economic crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent multiple crises, and also recognizes that more needs to be done in order to promote the economic recovery, to manage the consequences of volatility in global financial and commodity markets, especially rising inflationary, interest rate and exchange rate pressures, to tackle high unemployment and rising indebtedness in many countries, as well as widespread fiscal strains, to reinforce the banking sector, including by increasing its transparency and accountability, to address systemic fragilities and imbalances, to reform and strengthen the international financial system and to continue and to enhance the coordination of financial and economic policies at the international level;

5. *Acknowledges* that endeavours to overcome the crisis must go beyond short-term relief, and recognizes the need for continued action to support the developing countries, including middle-income countries, that are most in need, on an inclusive basis, including through enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and international financial institutions and multilateral and regional development banks, according to their respective mandates, net positive flows from the international financial institutions to developing countries, sufficient concessional finance by, inter alia, enhancing access to concessional, long-term loans and development assistance while mobilizing catalytically additional resources from the private sector and assisting developing countries in addressing debt vulnerability and liquidity risk in the immediate term and in attaining debt sustainability in the long term, notes the multilateral response to the pandemic, including the Group of 20 and Paris Club Debt Service Suspension Initiative, and remains concerned with the lack of participation of private creditors, appreciates the recent progress made in the ongoing implementation of the Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the Debt Service Suspension

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[45] A/77/224.

[46] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[47] Resolution 70/1.

Initiative, encourages the Group of 20 and Paris Club creditors to discuss options for implementing comparability of the treatment of private and other official bilateral creditors, expanding support to highly indebted developing countries, considering the provision of temporary debt standstills on a case-by-case basis throughout negotiations and facilitating rapid recovery of capital market access following restructuring, and stresses the importance of stepping up efforts to improve and implement the Common Framework in a timely, orderly and coordinated manner, noting the possibility for greater collaboration of credit rating agencies in this regard, and notes the liquidity support for countries with liquidity constraints and the forthcoming evaluation of funding needs of the International Monetary Fund Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust;

6. *Recognizes* the role of special drawing rights as an international reserve asset, acknowledges that special drawing rights allocations helped to supplement international reserves in response to the world financial and economic crisis as well as the COVID-19 pandemic, thus contributing to the stability of the international financial system and global economic resilience, and supports the continued examination of the broader use of special drawing rights as a way to enhance the resilience of the international monetary system, including with reference to their potential role in the international reserve system;

7. *Welcomes* the special drawing rights allocation of the equivalent of 650 billion United States dollars of 23 August 2021, recommends the exploration of further voluntary options related to special drawing rights that could serve the needs of developing member countries of the International Monetary Fund, commends countries that pledged 81.6 billion dollars through the voluntary channelling of special drawing rights or equivalent contributions, calls for further pledges from all willing and able countries to meet the total global ambition of 100 billion dollars of voluntary contributions for countries most in need, takes note with appreciation of the operationalization of the Resilience and Sustainability Trust of the Fund to help eligible countries address longer-term structural challenges that pose macroeconomic risks, and notes that debt sustainability and liquidity can play an important role in achieving a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery and the Sustainable Development Goals;

8. *Stresses* the need to consider an increase in concessional funding from multilateral development banks and for the consideration of global financial system reform, which includes lending criteria that complement or go beyond gross domestic product and are based on a comprehensive understanding of multidimensional factors, including but not limited to vulnerability and resilience of developing countries;

9. *Also stresses* the critical importance of a stable, inclusive and enabling global economic environment for the advancement of sustainable development, for the reliable and effective financing of development and for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, mobilizing public and private, as well as domestic and international resources;

10. *Notes* the adoption by the Statistical Commission of the proposed new indicator 17.3.1 under Sustainable Development Goal target 17.3 (Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources), also notes the need for open, inclusive and transparent discussions on the modernization of official development assistance measurement and the new measure of "total official support for sustainable development", and affirms that any such measure will not dilute commitments already made;

11. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors, including both public and private, must work together in a transparent manner to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledging, however, that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing and recognizes the applicable requirements of the International Monetary Fund debt limits policy and/or the World Bank non-concessional borrowing policy, as well as the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in its statistical system to enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and will work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

12. *Invites*, in this regard, the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to give appropriate consideration to the central role of maintaining and facilitating the financial and macroeconomic stability of developing countries, including debt sustainability, and of supporting an appropriately enabling domestic and international economic, financial and regulatory environment for the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including financial inclusion, and in this regard invites all major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

13. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Economic and Social Council to consider, at its annual forum on financing for development follow-up, a dedicated discussion and analysis of systemic issues and challenges, taking into account the roles of all international financial institutions and also the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this matter, including its resolution 69/313 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the mandate of the annual forum on financing for development follow-up set out therein;

14. *Resolves* to strengthen the coherence and consistency of multilateral financial, investment, trade and development policy and environment institutions and platforms and to increase cooperation between major international institutions, while respecting mandates and governance structures, and commits itself to taking better advantage of relevant United Nations forums for promoting universal and holistic coherence and international commitments to sustainable development, building on the vision of the Monterrey Consensus, with a view to supporting the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda;

15. *Recalls* that countries must have, in accordance with their specific needs and circumstances, the flexibility necessary to implement countercyclical measures and pursue tailored and targeted responses to the various types of shocks, including economic and financial crises, notes that, in the 2018 International Monetary Fund review of programme design and conditionality, it was found that the number of structural conditions included in programmes of the Fund had increased over time, and calls for the Fund to build on recent progress to further prioritize reforms and streamline conditions to ensure that they are timely, tailored and targeted, in accordance with national circumstances and priorities, and that they support developing countries in the face of financial, economic and development challenges;

16. *Notes*, in this regard, the new strategy of the International Monetary Fund for engagement on social spending, welcomes the Fund's recognition of the adverse impacts that fiscal adjustment could have on the vulnerable, for whom social spending is critical to achieving the commitments under the 2030 Agenda, including nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and encourages greater collaboration on social protection finance among all international development institutions;

17. *Invites* the multilateral development banks and other international development banks to continue to provide both concessional and non-concessional, stable, long-term development finance by leveraging contributions and capital and by mobilizing resources for developing countries from multiple sources, for example from capital markets, and stresses that development banks should make optimal use of their resources and balance sheets, while preserving long-term financial sustainability, robust credit ratings and preferred creditor status, consistent with maintaining their financial integrity, and should continue to discuss options for implementing the recommendations of the independent review of multilateral development banks' capital adequacy frameworks, commissioned by the Group of 20, and should update and develop their policies in support of the 2030 Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as appropriate;

18. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the ongoing work of international financial institutions, including the more recently established New Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, in the global development finance architecture, and encourages enhanced regional and subregional cooperation, including through regional and subregional development banks, commercial and reserve currency arrangements and other regional and subregional initiatives;

19. *Encourages*, in this regard, the multilateral development banks to continue to move forward on flexible, concessional, fast-disbursing and front-loaded assistance and innovative financial instruments that can absorb or diminish the financial costs for developing countries, with due regard to ensuring the financial sustainability of the banks, that will substantially and quickly assist developing countries facing financing gaps in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into consideration the individual absorptive capacities and debt sustainability of those countries, and invites shareholders of regional development banks to ensure that they remain sufficiently capitalized so as to be able to meet those needs;

20. *Also encourages* the multilateral development banks, within their respective mandates, to continue to expand technical assistance, disseminate and share their knowledge and best practices, as well as foster a deeper understanding of financial capacity and capital needs, in order to enhance the multiplier effect of their financing by leveraging more resources and diversifying their sources, including by mobilizing private investment, to provide innovative and integral solutions to multidimensional development problems, in particular in developing and emerging economies;

21. *Recognizes* the need for the international financial institutions, as appropriate, to promote gender mainstreaming in their policies and programmes, including macroeconomic, job creation and structural reform policies and programmes, in accordance with relevant national priorities and strategies;

22. *Urges* multilateral donors and invites the international financial institutions and regional development banks, within their respective mandates, to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas, and invites multilateral and regional development banks to agree on common indicators for analysing the gender impact of their lending;

23. *Recognizes* that it is important that all international financial institutions and multilateral development banks continue to be adequately resourced, and reiterates the importance of further governance reform in order to adapt to changes in the global economy;

24. *Recalls* the commitment of the International Monetary Fund to revisiting the adequacy of quotas and continuing the process of governance reform under the sixteenth general review of quotas, including a new quota formula as a guide, by 15 December 2023, and the commitment to ensuring the primary role of quotas in Fund resources, and that any adjustment in quota shares would be expected to result in increases in the quota shares of dynamic economies in line with their relative positions in the world economy and hence likely in the share of emerging market and developing countries as a whole, while protecting the voice and representation of the poorest members, and recommits itself to the broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance;

25. *Encourages* Member States to work together to strengthen and improve a system in which different layers of the global financial safety net are closely coordinated and have clear assignments of responsibilities and to consider enhancing regional financial arrangements to help countries to weather shocks, strengthen their capacity to detect risk and create new regional arrangements where there are not sufficient institutions in place;

26. *Acknowledges* the importance of the international financial institutions supporting, in line with their mandates, the policy space of each country, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, in particular developing countries;

27. *Reaffirms* that cohesive, nationally owned sustainable development strategies, supported by integrated national financing frameworks, will be at the heart of efforts, reiterates that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, expresses respect for each country's policy space and leadership to implement policies for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and for sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, at the same time recognizes that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, and that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies globally, as well as capacity-building, are also critical, and commits to pursuing policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors, and to reinvigorating the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;

28. *Recommits* itself to a redoubling of its efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation;

29. *Notes* that rapid developments in digital financial technology, further accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, have transformed the provision of financial services and created a new ecosystem of digital assets, recognizes the relevance of carefully monitoring domestic and global developments, reviewing and updating regulatory frameworks when necessary and cooperating across sectors and borders to support enabling environments that take due account of opportunities and risks to ensure a more balanced view of digital financial innovations, while still fostering competition and innovations in the financial system, and requests the United Nations system to continue to support developing countries through knowledge-sharing, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and capacity-building in order to better address the opportunities, challenges and implications of emerging digital financial technologies;

30. *Also notes* the development of central bank digital currencies, and encourages regulators to consider potential opportunities and risks for the international and domestic financial system;

31. *Further notes* the statement by the Financial Stability Board on international regulation and supervision of cryptoasset activities, including stablecoins, of 11 July 2022, underlining that stablecoins should be covered by robust regulations and supervision by relevant authorities if they are to be adopted as a widely used means of payment or otherwise play an important role in the financial system, in line with their national regulations and policies;

32. *Notes* the work by the Financial Stability Board on financial market reform, commits itself to sustaining or strengthening frameworks for macroprudential regulation and countercyclical buffers, reaffirms the commitment to hastening the completion of the reform agenda on financial market regulation, including assessing and if necessary reducing the systemic risks associated with non-bank financial intermediation, markets for derivatives, securities lending and repurchase agreements, and also reaffirms the commitment to addressing the risk created by "too-big-to-fail" financial institutions and to addressing cross-border elements in the effective resolution of troubled, systemically important financial institutions;

33. *Also notes* that there are growing risks outside the regulatory framework, including through non-bank financial institutions and financial technology, and calls upon financial regulators to increasingly shift towards examining the underlying risks associated with financial activity rather than the type of financial institution;

34. *Calls upon* financial regulators to encourage financial institutions to explore new opportunities to improve their ability to better manage risks, including through anti-money-laundering and countering the financing of terrorism measures, as well as through the greater use of technology to help to address the costs and risks of operating correspondent banking relationships;

35. *Emphasizes* the relevance of inclusion in the international financial system at all levels and the importance of considering financial inclusion as a policy objective in financial regulation, in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

36. *Reiterates* that effective, inclusive multilateral surveillance should be at the centre of crisis prevention efforts, stresses the need to continue to strengthen surveillance of the financial policies of countries, and in this regard notes the current efforts to update the surveillance approach of the International Monetary Fund in line with its mandate to better integrate bilateral and multilateral surveillance, along with cross-border and cross-sectoral linkages with macroeconomic and macroprudential policies, while paying closer attention to the spillover effects from national economic and financial policies on to the global economy;

37. *Notes* the potential for source countries of capital flows to use appropriate combinations of macroeconomic, macroprudential and regulatory policies that avoid excessive leverage and large international spillovers in the form of capital flow volatility, while still meeting domestic macroeconomic objectives, encourages source countries to consider such policies, while clearly communicating monetary policy decisions, and calls for greater macroeconomic coordination among systemically important economies, which can also help to address global financial market volatility;

38. *Invites* the international financial and banking institutions, in consultation with national Governments, to develop tailored guidelines on how countries can attract long-term international investments, guided by the 2030 Agenda, in line with national plans and policies, and with a view to minimizing the adverse effects of capital market volatility;

39. *Reiterates* the need to resolve to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations, and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings, and notes that Member States may consider the feasibility of establishing public rating agencies;

40. *Invites* the international financial and banking institutions to continue to enhance the transparency and analytical rigour of risk-rating mechanisms, noting that sovereign risk assessments should maximize the use of objective and transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis, and encourages relevant institutions, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue their work on the issue, including the potential impact of the role played by private credit-rating agencies on the development prospects of developing countries, in accordance with their mandates;

41. *Recommits* itself to enabling women's full and equal participation in the economy and their equal access to decision-making processes and leadership;

42. *Encourages* all development banks to establish or maintain social and environmental safeguard systems, including on sustainable infrastructure, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, that are transparent, effective, efficient and time-sensitive, and engage affected communities in project design and implementation;

43. *Reiterates* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

44. *Requests*, in this regard, the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session an action-oriented report on the implementation of the present resolution, with a particular focus on reform of the international financial system in the post-COVID era;

45. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 77/153

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/441/Add.3, para. 8)[48]

77/153. External debt sustainability and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007, 63/206 of 19 December 2008, 64/191 of 21 December 2009, 65/144 of 20 December 2010, 66/189 of 22 December 2011, 67/198 of 21 December 2012, 68/202 of 20 December 2013, 69/207 of 19 December 2014, 70/190 of 22 December 2015, 71/216 of 21 December 2016, 72/204 of 20 December 2017, 73/221 of 20 December 2018, 74/203 of 19 December 2019, 75/205 of 21 December 2020 and 76/193 of 17 December 2021,

Noting the work of the United Nations in this area,

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

[48] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Reaffirming further the Paris Agreement,[49] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[50] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[51]

Recalling also the 2022 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, its intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations[52] and the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development held under the auspices of the General Assembly,

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, and acknowledging that debt crises are costly and disruptive, including for employment and productive investment, and tend to be followed by cuts in public spending, including on health and education, affecting the poor and vulnerable in particular,

Reaffirming that each country has primary responsibility for its own development, including through maintaining its own debt sustainability, and that the role of national policies and development strategies, including in the area of debt management, is central to the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts, including to achieve development goals and to maintain debt sustainability, should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Noting the increasing share of domestic borrowing, and acknowledging that the development of domestic bond markets can contribute to fiscal and financial resilience and mitigate exchange rate risks in times of financial turbulence, while noting that excessive borrowing from the domestic banking system could also exacerbate vulnerabilities through the sovereign-bank nexus, in the event of a crisis,

Reiterating that debt sustainability depends on a confluence of many factors at the international and national levels, and emphasizing that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks, such as volatile commodity and energy prices, more intense and frequent natural disasters and international capital flows, should continue to be taken into account in debt sustainability analyses,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of and risks resulting from the continuing fragility of the global economy and the slow pace of the restoration of global growth and trade, including the impact on development, net negative capital flows from some emerging and developing economies and inequalities for young people, women, persons with disabilities, people in rural and remote areas and other people in vulnerable situations, underlining that global growth has remained strongly dependent on unprecedented increases in global debt stocks and, in conjunction with the fast integration of developing countries into international financial markets, including for purposes of debt refinancing, exposes a growing number of developing economies to highly sensitive and amplified reactions in financial markets, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system, while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date to attend to these challenges and to make progress towards sustaining global demand,

Underlining that, globally, the gross domestic product growth rate could increase significantly if every country achieved gender equality, and recognizing that the economic and social losses owing to a lack of progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are significant,

Recognizing with concern that, in 2021, the external debt positions of many developing countries had continued to deteriorate, with external debt stocks of developing countries growing by 600 billion United States dollars in 2021

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[49] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[50] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[51] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[52] See E/FFDF/2022/3.

to reach a new record level of 11.9 trillion dollars, and that, for low-income and middle-income countries, the debt stock reached 9.7 trillion dollars in 2021, an increase of 8.1 per cent as compared with 2020,

Recognizing with concern also that small island developing States saw their external debt position deteriorate further in 2021, reaching new record levels of 66.1 billion dollars and raising the ratio of debt service costs to export revenues from 37 per cent in 2019 to 41.1 per cent in 2021,

Recognizing with concern further that total external debt stocks in lower-middle-income countries grew in 2021 to 2.5 trillion dollars, or 30.4 per cent of their gross domestic product, 118.3 per cent of their export earnings, while those of upper-middle-income countries rose to 7.1 trillion dollars, amounting to 26.1 per cent of their gross domestic product and to 104 per cent of their export earnings in 2021 and that the debt of middle-income countries has not only been growing at a faster pace than anticipated over recent years but is a more costly debt with a shorter maturity,

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,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[53] reiterating that severe natural disasters and social or economic shocks can pose immediate fiscal challenges or undermine a country's debt sustainability, and noting that public creditors have taken steps to ease debt repayment obligations through debt rescheduling and debt cancellation following an earthquake or a tsunami and in the context of the Ebola crisis in West Africa, noting the debt swap initiative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Debt for Climate Adaptation Swap, and encouraging consideration of further debt relief steps, such as the use of sovereign contingent debt instruments, where appropriate, and/or other measures for countries affected in this regard, as feasible,

Welcoming the recent call by the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund to prioritize help to those countries that need debt restructuring, considering that the share of low-income countries at high risk or already in debt distress has doubled since 2015,

Expressing deep concern that a number of countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as a growing number of middle-income countries, face challenges in servicing their debt and that, in spite of international efforts, 60 per cent of low-income countries and 30 per cent of emerging economies are considered by the International Monetary Fund as being in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress, and the highest inflation in decades, the impact of exchange rate fluctuations and rising international interest rates have significantly increased debt servicing costs,

Recognizing with concern that, prior to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, total external debt stocks of developing countries reached a new record of 10 trillion dollars, and rising external debt burdens continued to absorb a growing share of developing countries' resources and simultaneously the ability of developing countries to self-insure against exogenous economic and non-economic shocks, and increased market risk through international reserve cushions continued to weaken, recognizing with concern also that there has been a deterioration in the external debt sustainability of economies, in particular in the most vulnerable and in middle-income countries throughout the crisis, despite efforts by the Group of 20, targeted at the most vulnerable countries, and bilateral creditors, such as the Paris Club, and the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to address the challenges of debt sustainability, and encouraging them to continue their work to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, socioeconomic crisis and the increase in cost of living on debtor countries' debt sustainability,

Recognizing the importance of debt sustainability for the smooth transition of countries graduating from least developed country status, as well as those that have already graduated,

Emphasizing that international support, in the form of official development assistance and a coordinated multilateral effort to provide low-cost, long-term development financing, as well as enhanced domestic resource mobilization, which is the primary source of financing for development across all country classifications, are needed to address the growing challenges to developing countries' debt sustainability,

Taking note of the operational guidelines for sustainable financing promoted by the Group of 20, while urging the Group to continue to engage in an inclusive and transparent manner with other States Members of the United

[53] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

Nations in its work, in order to ensure that the initiatives of the Group complement or strengthen the United Nations system, and noting the progress achieved in the implementation of the operational guidelines,

Noting the need for coordinated efforts by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to promote responsible, transparent and sustainable lending and borrowing,

Noting with concern that countries around the world continue to grapple with multiple crises, including COVID-19, climate change and geopolitical tensions and conflicts which have accentuated food, energy and financial challenges and undermined inclusive recovery and eradication of poverty, while rising risk aversion has triggered capital outflows from emerging market economies, causing adverse effects on the debt sustainability efforts of developing countries,

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,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;[54]

2. *Emphasizes* the special importance of timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solutions to the debt problems of developing countries to promote their economic growth and development;

3. *Recognizes* the importance, in particular, of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external debt sustainability arising from structural changes to overall debt composition, the rapid growth of private sector debt in many emerging and developing countries and the growing use of new debt financing instruments and approaches;

4. *Notes* the growing concerns about fast-rising corporate debt, high-risk exposure to volatile international financial markets and fast-growing debt servicing burdens as potential triggers of financial and debt crises and the consequent need for coordinated policy responses;

5. *Stresses* the need to continue 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, taking into account the challenges posed by the global economic environment and risks for debt sustainability in a growing number of developing countries;

6. *Acknowledges* the role played by the Debt Sustainability Framework for Low-Income Countries, jointly developed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to guide borrowing and lending decisions, and notes its operationalization in 2018 and the further enhancement of debt sustainability assessment frameworks, consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[55] and longer-term structural transformation;

7. *Reiterates* that no single indicator should be used to make definitive judgments about a country's debt sustainability, and, in view of the new challenges and vulnerabilities for developing countries' external debt sustainability, substantiated by the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and recent joint analyses of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, stresses the need for improved data collection and quality in areas that include domestic public debt and domestic and external private debt, as well as legal and regulatory features, such as ownership, currency denomination and jurisdiction according to national priorities, in addition to finalizing current ongoing work on the multidimensional vulnerability index;

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[54] See A/77/206.

[55] Resolution 70/1.

8. *Also reiterates* that timely and comprehensive data on the level and composition of debt are necessary for, inter alia, building early warning systems aimed at limiting the impact of debt crises, calls for debtor and creditor countries to intensify their efforts to collect and release data, where appropriate, welcomes the ongoing work of relevant institutions to apply innovative tools for monitoring financial stress in developing countries and to invite relevant institutions to consider the creation of a central data registry that includes information on debt restructuring, and calls for donors to consider increasing their support for technical cooperation programmes aimed at increasing the statistical capacity of developing countries in that regard;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations system, the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund and other relevant stakeholders, including the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, to continue to conduct analytical activities and to provide policy advice and technical assistance to Governments, upon request, in the areas of managing debt, and operating and maintaining databases, and in this regard recalls that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development should continue its analytical and policy work and technical assistance on debt issues, including the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System Programme, so that this extends not only to improvements in the timeliness and accuracy of debt data recording, but also to the enhanced coverage of public sector and other relevant debt data, including, in particular, heretofore unrecorded or hidden debt instruments, contingent liabilities and more complex debt instruments;

10. *Stresses* the need to strengthen information-sharing and transparency among all creditors and borrowers to make sure that debt sustainability assessments are based on comprehensive, objective and reliable data, including an assessment of national public and private debt, in order to ensure the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, encourages further improvement of the mutual exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, on borrowing and lending among all creditors and borrowers, and takes note of the Paris Forum initiative, which gathers together sovereign creditors and debtors to share views and information, promote greater debt transparency and preserve debt sustainability;

11. *Recognizes* that the long-term sustainability of debt depends on, inter alia, economic growth, the mobilization of domestic and international resources, the export prospects of debtor countries, sustainable debt management, sound macroeconomic policies that also support job creation, transparent and effective regulatory frameworks and success in overcoming structural development problems and, hence, on the creation of an enabling environment at all levels that is conducive to development, and also recognizes the need to assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability, through coordinated policies aimed at fostering adequate debt financing and resolution tools, such as debt relief and debt restructuring supporting sound debt management;

12. *Notes with concern* that some low- and middle-income developing countries that were not part of the existing debt relief initiatives now have large debt burdens that may create constraints on mobilizing the resources needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, indicating a need to consider, as appropriate, stronger debt management initiatives for those countries, and stresses the importance of medium- and long-term debt sustainability to deal with debt, including non-Paris Club debt;

13. *Underlines* the fact that heavily indebted poor countries eligible for debt relief will not be able to enjoy the full benefits unless all creditors, both public and private, contribute to debt workouts, as appropriate, in order to ensure the debt sustainability of those countries, and invites creditors, both private and public, that are not yet fully participating in debt relief initiatives to substantially increase their participation, including by providing comparable treatment to debtor countries that have concluded sustainable debt relief agreements with creditors;

14. *Stresses* the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, when applicable, to address the debt problem of those countries, acknowledges that sound debt management initiatives can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and with the promotion of sustained economic growth and development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard urges countries to direct the resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards achieving those objectives, while still maintaining sustainable debt levels through prudent fiscal management, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda, according to their national priorities and strategies;

15. *Notes* that countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help to mitigate the adverse impacts of a debt crisis and stabilize macroeconomic developments;

16. *Acknowledges* the efforts of, and invites creditors to provide additional flexibility to, developing countries affected by natural disasters so as to allow them to address their national debt concerns, while taking into account their specific economic and social situations and needs;

17. *Recognizes* that the detrimental impact of disasters on the debt sustainability of many least developed countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries warrants further attention and that preserving external debt sustainability requires ex ante financing to enable the systematic reduction of disaster risk and resilience-building, as well as the disclosure of disaster risk to avoid exacerbating debt distress, when feasible, and in this regard recognizes that many least developed countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries have limited access to financing to invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience before and after disasters, while noting the potential benefits of climate-resilient debt instruments;

18. *Also recognizes* that, in some cases, the use of public debt and renewed external borrowing to absorb the impact of a natural disaster could lead to higher debt servicing for developing countries and constrain their growth and their capacity to invest in long-term resilience-building measures, and further acknowledges that, with each new disaster, financial vulnerabilities grow and domestic response capacities weaken;

19. *Further recognizes* the importance of the creation of robust, nationally appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks for sustainable national and municipal borrowing, on the basis of sustainable debt management, supported by adequate revenues and capacities, by means of local creditworthiness, as well as expanded sustainable municipal debt markets, when appropriate, and in this regard underlines the importance of the establishment of appropriate financial intermediaries for urban financing, such as regional, national, subnational and local development funds or development banks, including pooled financing mechanisms, which can catalyse public and private, national and international financing;

20. *Underlines* the importance of multilateral efforts to tackle increasingly complex cross-border challenges that have serious effects on development and debt sustainability;

21. *Recognizes 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, calls 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, including middle-income countries, and in this regard reaffirms the growing urgency of dealing not only with liquidity but also solvency risks, and:

(a) Welcomes the special drawing rights allocation of the equivalent of 650 billion United States dollars of 23 August 2021, recommends the exploration of further voluntary options related to special drawing rights that could serve the needs of developing member countries of the International Monetary Fund, commends countries that pledged 81.6 billion dollars through the voluntary channelling of special drawing rights or equivalent contributions, calls for further pledges from all willing and able countries to meet the total global ambition of 100 billion dollars of voluntary contributions for countries most in need, takes note with appreciation of the operationalization of the Resilience and Sustainability Trust of the Fund to help eligible countries address longer-term structural challenges that pose macroeconomic risks, and notes that debt sustainability and liquidity can play an important role in achieving a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery and the Sustainable Development Goals;

(b) Recommends assisting developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief, debt restructuring and sound debt management, as appropriate, to enhance the ability of countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

(c) Also recommends the facilitation of timely and orderly debt treatment with the broad participation of all creditors, including those in the private sector, on comparable terms, stresses the need in the medium term to strengthen information-sharing between debtors and creditors, as necessary, and long-term debt sustainability analysis, based on comprehensive, objective, transparent and reliable data, and technical cooperation that takes account of the requirements of sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda, and emphasizes the urgency of strengthening international efforts and cooperation and responding to the call for the easing of debt burdens by

addressing the debt vulnerability, in the immediate term, and the debt sustainability, in the long term, of heavily indebted developing countries;

22. *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, including through continued monitoring of global financial flows and their implications in this regard;

23. *Also recognizes* the important role of credit ratings in the capital market ecosystem, as they provide creditors and the public with assessments of a debtor's relative risk of default, and acknowledges that downgraded ratings may negatively affect the opinion of lenders and bondholders and as a result raise the cost and reduce the availability of future debt funding, and that it is important that credit rating agencies ensure that their ratings are objective, independent and based on accurate information and sound analytical methods, including by considering development, social and environmental indicators and impacts of external shocks in their ratings, to the extent that these factors have an impact on debt risk, noting in this regard the high-level meeting on the role of credit rating agencies in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

24. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors must work together in a transparent manner to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledges that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, recognizes the applicable requirements of the debt limits policy of the International Monetary Fund and/or the non-concessional borrowing policy of the World Bank and the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in its statistical system to enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and resolves to work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

25. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts to prevent and mitigate the prevalence and cost of debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, encourages the private sector to cooperate in this regard, and invites creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, the use of new and improved debt instruments such as debt swaps, including debt for equity in Sustainable Development Goal projects, as well as debt indexation instruments;

26. *Recalls* the holding of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Barbados and Geneva from 3 to 7 October 2021, and the Bridgetown Covenant,[56] and encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to continue its analytical and policy work and technical assistance on debt issues, including to promote policies for responsible, sustainable and transparent sovereign borrowing and lending, as appropriate, and to enhance the efficiency of the global economic system and debt sustainability for the realization of the 2030 Agenda in developing countries;

27. *Expresses its concern* regarding the ability of non-cooperative minority bondholders to disrupt the will of the large majority of bondholders who accept a restructuring of a debt-crisis country's obligations, given the potential broader implications in other countries, notes contractual and legislative steps taken by countries to prevent these activities, and encourages all Governments to take action, as appropriate, and, furthermore, takes note of discussions in the United Nations on debt issues;

28. *Encourages* Governments to be mindful of the ability of non-cooperative minority bondholders to block a restructuring of a debt-crisis country's obligations, and encourages debtors and creditors to work together to draft bond agreements accordingly;

29. *Welcomes* the reforms to pari passu and collective action clauses proposed by the International Capital Market Association and endorsed by the International Monetary Fund to reduce the vulnerability of sovereigns to holdout creditors, encourages countries to take further action to include those clauses in all their bond issuances, and

[56] TD/541/Add.2.

welcomes the continued work of the International Monetary Fund to monitor the uptake of the clauses and explore options for resolving the issue with the outstanding stock of debt without such clauses;

30. *Recalls* that the United Nations, as a universal intergovernmental body, has provided a platform for both creditors and debtors to discuss ways to improve external debt sustainability, notes the substantive expert debate among the major institutional stakeholders on how to improve debt sustainability and debt restructuring during the 2022 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, and in this regard invites continued ongoing cooperation among the international financial institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, relevant United Nations system entities, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and other relevant forums, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this matter;

31. *Also recalls* the establishment of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, notes its fifth session, held in March 2022, at which policy priorities to mobilize sustainable development finance beyond the COVID-19 pandemic were items for deliberation, and recalls the request that the work of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development be presented as a regular input to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, in accordance with the terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts;

32. *Reiterates* the invitation to the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to give appropriate consideration to the central role of maintaining and facilitating the financial and macroeconomic stability of developing countries, including debt sustainability, and of supporting an appropriately enabling domestic and international economic, financial and regulatory environment for the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and in this regard invites all major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

33. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system, the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund and other relevant stakeholders, and international financial institutions, to scale up technical assistance in debt management, including debt data recording and reporting, and debt transparency and to provide greater coordination of advice, for the delivery of such technical assistance upon request, and to ensure synergies with the full spectrum of debt management mechanisms;

34. *Invites* donor countries, taking into account country-specific debt sustainability analyses, to continue their provision of concessional and grant-based financing to developing countries, which could contribute to debt sustainability in the medium to long term, and notes the provision by the International Monetary Fund of interest relief to eligible developing countries in the form of zero-interest loans;

35. *Invites* the international community to continue efforts to increase support, including financial and technical assistance, for institutional capacity-building in developing countries to enhance sustainable upstream and downstream debt management as an integral part of national development strategies, including by promoting transparent and accountable debt management systems and negotiation and renegotiation capacities and through supporting legal advice in relation to tackling external debt litigation and debt data reconciliation between creditors and debtors so that debt sustainability may be achieved and maintained;

36. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and invites the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in cooperation with the regional commissions, regional development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders, to intensify cooperation in respect of activities relating to capacity-building and to early warning monitoring systems in developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

37. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in cooperation and inclusive dialogue with international financial institutions and relevant international stakeholders, to continue its analytical, policy, technical cooperation and statistical work on debt issues and to strengthen its contribution to enhancing long-term financial and debt sustainability in developing countries, taking into account also the impact of investment requirements arising from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and other global crises, in accordance with the Bridgetown Covenant;

38. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt sustainability of developing countries;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session an action-oriented report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in his report progress made on international measures and concrete recommendations to accelerate the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[57] and the 2030 Agenda with respect to matters of debt and debt sustainability and the related efforts to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as their implications for external debt sustainability and development, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt sustainability and development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 77/154

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/441/Add.4, para. 8)[58]

77/154. Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[59] which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need for its effective implementation, to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto, and its full support for the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention,

Recalling its resolution S-32/1 of 2 June 2021 containing the political declaration entitled "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation", and recalling also the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its ninth session, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 13 to 17 December 2021,[60]

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[57] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[58] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[59] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[60] CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[61]

Recalling its resolutions 65/169 of 20 December 2010, 71/213 of 21 December 2016, 72/207 of 20 December 2017, 73/222 of 20 December 2018, 74/206 of 19 December 2019, 75/206 of 21 December 2020 and 76/196 of 17 December 2021,

Recalling also its resolutions 71/208 of 19 December 2016, 72/196 of 19 December 2017, 73/186 of 17 December 2018, 74/177 of 18 December 2019, 74/276 of 1 June 2020 and 75/194 of 16 December 2020,

Taking note of the 2022 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development,[62]

Recognizing that making progress on reducing illicit financial flows as facilitated through strengthened international tax cooperation could contribute to domestic resource mobilization and the achievement of other goals and targets in the 2030 Agenda,

Recalling the report of the High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa and its relevant contributions in increasing knowledge of the sources of illicit financial flows, and reiterating its invitation to other regions to carry out similar exercises,

Recalling also the high-level meeting on international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return, convened by the President of the General Assembly at Headquarters on 16 May 2019, and taking note of the Chair's summary,

Recalling further the focus on combating illicit financial flows at the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, held on 26 September 2019,

Recalling the policy recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[63] as well as the 2020 publication of the Conference on tackling illicit financial flows for sustainable development in Africa,[64]

Recalling also the report of the High-level Panel on International Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity for Achieving the 2030 Agenda,[65] and taking note of the recommendations by independent experts contained therein for further consideration, as appropriate,

Taking note of the conceptual framework for the statistical measurement of illicit financial flows of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and recognizing that it was endorsed by the Statistical Commission at its fifty-third session for global use as indicator 16.4.1 to measure illicit financial flows in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its indicator framework,

Reiterating its deep concern about the impact of illicit financial flows, in particular those caused by tax evasion, corruption and transnational organized crime, on the economic, social and political stability and development of societies, and especially on developing countries and their progress in financing the 2030 Agenda,

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,

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[61] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[62] *Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2022* (United Nations publication, 2022).

[63] See TD/B/EFD/1/3.

[64] *Economic Development in Africa Report 2020: Tackling Illicit Financial Flows for Sustainable Development in Africa* (United Nations publication, 2020).

[65] A/75/810/Rev.1, annex.

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,

Acknowledging that the COVID-19 pandemic has put a spotlight on the limitations of the Governments of developing countries to marshal resources in times of crisis, reiterating the need to enhance and strengthen effective domestic resource mobilization, including accountable and transparent public expenditure systems, and strengthen domestic regulatory and legal frameworks, as necessary, to more effectively counter the harm resulting from illicit financial flows, and that the harm done by such flows in straining the limited resources of developing countries evidently affects their ability to address the Sustainable Development Goal financing gap and to mobilize domestic resources for longer-term sustainable development, and recalling the meetings of discussion group VI of the informal process launched by the Secretary-General and the Governments of Canada and Jamaica on Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond,

Encouraging Member States to use and strengthen appropriate focal points to facilitate information exchange among one another, acknowledging the Riyadh initiative for enhancing international anti-corruption law enforcement cooperation and its Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities, as well as existing agreements, formal forums or networks, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)/Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative Global Focal Point Network on Asset Recovery,

Bearing in mind that there are different sources of illicit financial flows and that a separate analysis of each source is more beneficial in designing policy responses to prevent illicit financial flows,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and other relevant international forums to strengthen cooperation in preventing and combating illicit financial flows, as well as new initiatives taken by Governments and the private sector to mobilize the financial sector in the collective fight against illicit financial flows,

Recognizing that combating illicit financial flows is an essential development challenge, noting that developing countries are particularly susceptible to the negative impact of illicit financial flows, and emphasizing that illicit financial flows reduce the availability of valuable resources for financing for development,

Recognizing also the importance of studying the potential relationship between combating illicit financial flows and attaining debt sustainability,

Recognizing further the challenge posed by the increasing scope and complexity of illicit financial flows, and recognizing also the need for the recovery and return of stolen assets in accordance with the Convention requires strengthened international cooperation,

Recognizing that numerous technical, legal and practical challenges are to be addressed in order to facilitate the repatriation of proceeds of crime to countries from where they were originally stolen,

Recognizing also that global knowledge of the importance of combating illicit financial flows and enhancing the return of assets is rapidly increasing, as is the political will to recover illicitly acquired assets by both requesting and requested States, and noting that, while many challenges remain unresolved, tackling them effectively requires a holistic approach that recognizes the different types of illicit financial flows and their impact on sustainable development,

Reaffirming the importance of chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and underlining that the recovery and return of stolen assets pursuant to that chapter is a fundamental principle of the Convention,

Recognizing the work carried out by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and in particular its Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, to advance the full implementation of chapter V of the Convention,

Noting the efforts to promote the exchange of information and synergies between the open-ended intergovernmental expert meetings to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the Working Group on International Cooperation established by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

Recalling the second International Expert Meeting on the Return of Stolen Assets, held in Addis Ababa from 7 to 9 May 2019,

Noting the holding of the second session of the Illicit Trade Forum, in Geneva on 6 and 7 September 2022, which highlighted the negative impact of illicit trade, including related illicit financial flows, on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, revenue generation and economic activity,

Recalling the work of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax, which is to intensify collaboration and coordination on tax issues between the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, including on formalizing regular discussions among the four international organizations on the implementation of standards for international tax matters and on the strengthening of their ability to provide capacity-building support to developing countries,

Noting the ongoing efforts of the joint Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development/United Nations Development Programme initiative, Tax Inspectors Without Borders, to support developing countries through targeted tax audit assistance programmes,

Recognizing the important work undertaken by academia and civil society, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery and the U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre, in assisting Member States in understanding the challenges associated with the return of stolen assets under chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Noting the work of the 141 members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development/Group of 20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting, which provides a forum for collaboration for tackling tax avoidance, improving the coherence of international tax rules and ensuring a more transparent and fair tax environment,

Noting also international developments on the implementation of the Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information in Tax Matters under a common reporting standard developed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, which 121 members have already committed to implementing by 2025, as well as the role of the 165 members of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, which enables cooperation on an equal footing,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Acknowledges* that combating illicit financial flows contributes to domestic resource mobilization, which is essential to finance policies aiming to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[66]

3. *Reiterates its commitment* to financial integrity for sustainable development, through national efforts and international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and promote good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development, including through existing relevant international frameworks, such as the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, while noting the ongoing work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Group of 20;

4. *Reaffirms its commitment* to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows;

5. *Also reaffirms its commitment* to strengthen regulatory frameworks at all levels in accordance with international standards and to further increase the transparency and accountability of financial institutions and the corporate sector, as well as public administrations;

6. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of Member States to enhance knowledge and broaden understanding of the challenges and opportunities involved in international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets recovery and return consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption so as to foster sustainable development;

[66] A/77/304.

7. *Acknowledges* that combating illicit financial flows requires a range of actions that includes deterring, detecting, preventing and countering such flows in source, transit and destination countries;

8. *Also acknowledges* the need to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return and recovery as one of the sources of financing for development in a broad range of areas, such as poverty eradication, food security, health, education, investment in social programmes or adaptation to climate change, and may contribute to improved sustainable development outcomes;

9. *Recognizes* that combating illicit financial flows requires a coordinated, whole-of-government approach and therefore encourages Member States to create domestic institutional mechanisms, including those related to digitalization or other appropriate measures to ensure information-sharing and whole-of-government coordination, in this regard invites those Member States willing to prepare integrated national financing frameworks to include plans for combating illicit financial flows, including through the transfer and sharing of data, where appropriate, and requests the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development to explore recommendations to assist Member States in incorporating financial integrity actions into their financing frameworks;

10. *Notes* that international cooperation in combating illicit financial flows is a work in progress that must continue to be pursued, and encourages all countries to develop effective tools and create a policy environment for combating illicit financial flows, in accordance with the existing relevant international frameworks, including the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

11. *Recognizes* that measures aimed at combating illicit financial flows often require cross-border cooperation between law enforcement agencies and that, where requested, technical assistance can also contribute to better international cooperation, and encourages Member States, where applicable and subject to their domestic legal systems, and in line with their treaty obligations, to cooperate and exchange information and best practices in this regard;

12. *Encourages* countries and relevant multilateral and international organizations to continue and strengthen their efforts to provide, upon request, technical assistance and capacity-building assistance to developing countries, as well as to support African and other regional initiatives, to prevent, detect and combat illicit financial flows and to strengthen good practices on assets recovery and return to foster sustainable development in line with the 2030 Agenda;[67]

13. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[68] and urges States parties to those Conventions and Protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation;

14. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to effectively implement and enforce existing obligations under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as a critical part of combating illicit financial flows;

15. *Stresses* that anti-corruption measures should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies and therefore invites countries developing integrated national financing frameworks to include anti-corruption components and standards therein, as appropriate, further stresses that all jurisdictions should consider undertaking further research, policy development and programming, as appropriate, to address corruption, and decides to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption, increase transparency and promote good governance;

16. *Encourages* closer public-private sector collaboration to better tackle corruption, and stresses that further research, policy development and programming should help in reaching this goal;

17. *Notes with concern* that proceeds emanating from offences established under the United Nations Convention against Corruption have yet to be disposed of in favour of the requesting States parties, their prior legitimate owners and victims of the crimes and decides to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption, increase transparency and promote good governance;

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[67] Resolution 70/1.

[68] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

18. *Encourages* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to make full use of the asset recovery tools set forth in chapter V of the Convention, including mechanisms for the enforcement of foreign restraining and confiscation orders, as a means of significantly reducing the expenses that a State party may normally incur in pursuing asset recovery;

19. *Calls upon* all States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular requesting and requested States parties, to cooperate to recover the proceeds of crime as defined in the Convention, and to fulfil their obligation to ensure the return or disposal of such proceeds, in accordance with article 57 of the Convention, and invites States parties to give consideration to allocating any recovered resources to finance the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and to strengthening the implementation of existing multilateral legal instruments for the purpose of asset recovery and return;

20. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, to continue to expand global knowledge and data collection on asset recovery and return by gathering and sharing information on challenges and good practices, as well as on volumes of assets frozen, seized, confiscated and returned in relation to corruption offences, and the number and types of cases, as appropriate, while ensuring the protection of personal data and privacy rights, drawing upon existing efforts, within existing resources;[69]

21. *Stresses* that efforts in international tax cooperation should be universal in approach and scope and fully take into account the different needs and capacities of all countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and African countries;

22. *Encourages* further efforts by relevant national and international actors to mitigate transfer pricing not in line with the arm's length principle and trade misinvoicing;

23. *Calls upon* all countries to work together to eliminate base erosion and profit shifting and to ensure that all companies, including multinationals, pay taxes to the Governments of countries where economic activity occurs and value is created, in accordance with national and international laws and policies;

24. *Also calls upon* all countries to cooperate, in accordance with applicable bilateral or multilateral agreements, in the areas of mutual legal assistance, administrative assistance and the exchange of information in tax matters, as well as the automatic exchange of financial account information;

25. *Invites* signatories to bilateral or multilateral tax transparency agreements to consider allowing information exchanged pursuant to those agreements to be used where permitted under such agreements and when written consent is provided, having regard to confidentiality and domestic law limitations;

26. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to update and strengthen the United Nations code of conduct on cooperation in combating international tax evasion[70] in response to new international agreements and to emphasize the importance of developing countries being able to benefit from international tax cooperation;

27. *Recognizes* the importance of the consideration of international tax cooperation at the United Nations, in that regard takes note with appreciation of the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, and invites the Economic and Social Council to explore options to strengthen the role of the Committee while giving due consideration to the need that efforts in international tax cooperation should be universal in approach and scope;

28. *Takes note* of the ongoing work on the implementation of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development/Group of 20 two-pillar solution to address the tax challenges arising from the digitalization of the economy, acknowledges the need for a careful analysis of the implications for developing countries, and encourages a special focus on their unique needs and capacities;

29. *Notes* the analysis, in the *Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2022*, the *Trade and Development Report 2021* of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and *World Economic Situation and Prospects 2022* of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, of the Organisation

[69] CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect I.A, resolution 9/2, para. 15.

[70] Economic and Social Council resolution 2017/3.

for Economic Co-operation and Development/Group of 20 two-pillar solution, and calls for inclusive discussions to address the uncertainties and implications for developing countries, including their capacity-building needs;

30. *Recalls* that new technologies can both increase efficiency in revenue collection and strengthen the efforts to combat illicit financial flows, expresses concern that virtual assets are being used for illicit activities, and in this regard encourages Member States and other relevant organizations to take measures in line with international standards, where applicable, to prevent and counter their illicit use;

31. *Notes* that various jurisdictions have introduced mechanisms to increase beneficial ownership transparency, including beneficial ownership registries of legal entities and legal arrangements, such as companies, trusts and limited liability partnerships, encourages all jurisdictions to consider establishing appropriate mechanisms through either a registry of beneficial ownership or an alternative mechanism, in line with domestic law and applicable international standards, and encourages Member States to facilitate the rapid, constructive and effective exchange of adequate and accurate beneficial ownership information;

32. *Also notes* that a wide variety of individuals and entities are involved in the transactions that comprise an illicit financial flow, recognizes the need to consider appropriate business regulatory policies, taking into account national circumstances, and in this regard invites the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to jointly prepare a global mapping of existing standards and guidelines, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, taking into account national circumstances, and to submit these to the Economic and Social Council for intergovernmental discussion;

33. *Recognizes* the significant progress and availability of concepts and tested methods to measure illicit financial flows, notes the outcomes of pilot studies across three continents showing that measurement of these flows is possible, while challenging, and requires strengthened support, and calls for increased transparency and the strengthening of efforts to enhance the capacity of national authorities for data collection and analysis to combat illicit financial flows with more informed and targeted policy efforts, emphasizing the need to strengthen national capacity to measure illicit financial flows in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and increase the exchange of data within national government institutions as well as from international institutions;

34. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as custodian agencies of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 16.4.1 on the total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows, in consultation with other institutions, to leverage and continue developing concepts and refine methods developed to date and to provide stronger support to national authorities, and invites all Member States to engage with the custodian agencies towards reporting data on the indicator;

35. *Invites* all institutions involved in measuring and reporting on illicit financial flows to use the statistical concepts and methods to estimate illicit financial flows, and encourages all Member States to report on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 16.4.1, using the methodology adopted by the Statistical Commission, and calls upon the United Nations system entities, international organizations and donors to work in coordination with the custodian agencies to train national statistical offices and other entities in charge of reporting on illicit financial flows on these agreed methods;

36. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Secretary-General to give appropriate consideration to the importance of combating illicit financial flows and strengthening good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development, calls upon the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to continue their consideration of the negative impact of illicit financial flows on financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development based on its indicator 16.4.1 and to coordinate their efforts to further explore policy responses to the phenomenon, and in this regard invites all other relevant international institutions to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

37. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

38. *Calls upon* the Economic and Social Council to enhance, within existing mandates, policy recommendations for combating illicit financial flows, involving all the relevant institutions and using existing bodies, to review progress on financial integrity issues, to scale up efforts to provide data on indicator 16.4.1, as well as to foster the implementation of existing intergovernmental agreements to address illicit financial flows;

39. *Looks forward* to the inclusion, in the 2023 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, of an analysis of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets recovery and return to foster sustainable development, pursuant to the mandate of the Task Force, and also looks forward to the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up on efforts to combat illicit financial flows;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report, within existing resources, in relation to progress made on combating illicit financial flows and the implementation of assets return and recovery based on existing mechanisms, and to elaborate on strengthening international coordination in this regard, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to inform the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session about the implementation of the present resolution, through a dedicated section of the *Sustainable Development Goals Pulse* report, elaborating in particular on the progress in testing, refining and applying the methodology to report on indicator 16.4.1, and the need to combat illicit financial flows and recover and return stolen assets in line with commitments contained in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[71] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic;

41. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 77/155

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/441/Add.5, para. 8)[72]

77/155. Promoting investments for sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

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,

[71] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[72] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

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,

Recalling its resolutions 74/199 of 19 December 2019, 75/207 of 21 December 2020 and 76/197 of 17 December 2021,

Underscoring that international project finance is increasingly important for Sustainable Development Goal and climate change investment and that the strong growth performance of international project finance can be explained by favourable financing conditions, infrastructure stimulus and significant interest on the part of financial market investors to participate in projects that require multiple financiers, recognizing that international project finance can enable Governments to leverage public investment through private finance participation, and noting that developing countries are disadvantaged in this regard and that efforts to enhance private finance mobilization in developing countries are particularly crucial,

Emphasizing that the bulk of tracked climate change investments is concentrated in renewable energy and energy-efficiency projects, that international private investment in climate change sectors is directed almost exclusively to mitigation, with only 5 per cent going to adaptation projects, and that more than 60 per cent is invested in developed countries, where 85 per cent of projects are purely privately financed, whereas almost half of the projects in developing countries require some form of public sector participation, while noting that investments in adaptation are underreported,

Highlighting the need for sustainable and innovative investments in water and sanitation to ensure progress on the implementation of water-related goals and targets,

Noting the urgent need to halve malnourishment, achieve zero hunger, reduce extreme poverty and ensure rapid, inclusive and sustainable income growth in developing countries by adopting the right policies and step up investments, research and the sharing of technology on mutually agreed terms, with the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals as the ultimate objective,

Noting with concern that the global environment changed dramatically in 2022, with rising geopolitical tensions and conflicts and the current multiple crises, which increased pressure on food, energy and finance, affecting many countries around the world, increasing investor uncertainty and putting significant downward pressure on global foreign direct investment in 2022,

Noting that the crises underscore the imperative to embed long-term and risk-informed thinking and sustainability into corporate and investment practices, and stressing that in order to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 crisis all stakeholders will have to work in tandem, at the same time, while the global fight against the pandemic and climate change has accelerated the momentum of sustainability finance and investment, with the value of sustainability-themed investment products in global capital markets amounting to 5.2 trillion United States dollars in 2021, recognizing that the vast majority of these funds have been invested in developed countries, leaving developing country investment opportunities significantly lacking, and that it is critical to scale up sustainable investments in all countries, especially in developing countries, including countries in special situations,

Emphasizing that success in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions depends on the creation of enabling environments at all levels to strengthen investments towards activities that promote the Goals,

Recognizing that a revitalized global partnership will facilitate an intensive global engagement in support of the implementation of all of the Goals and their targets, bringing together Governments, civil society, the private sector, the United Nations system and other actors and mobilizing all available resources,

Recalling that, in the 2030 Agenda, it was acknowledged that the implementation of sustainable development will depend on the active engagement of both the public and private sectors and other relevant international organizations, including international financial institutions and multilateral development banks,

Noting the convening of the seventh World Investment Forum, in Geneva from 18 to 22 October 2021, welcoming the fourth Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair, held in New York from 26 to 28 April 2022, and recalling the establishment of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance by the Secretary-General,

Taking note of the *World Investment Report 2022*, the *Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2022*, the *Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022* and the outcome document of the 2022 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up,[73]

Noting the work of the United Nations in the area of investments for sustainable development, including the World Investment Forum of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair and the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up,

Noting also all initiatives at the global, regional and local levels that are aimed at scaling up the mobilization of public and private finance towards investing for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in its three dimensions and deepening international cooperation,

Noting further the potential of impact investment for the financing of sustainable development in supporting national development policies, plans, priorities and needs in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals will require a shift towards long-term investment horizons, including early-stage financing, in this regard encouraging investors to take measures to incentivize greater long-term investment and early-stage financing, and recognizing that international public and private finance for development complemented by other innovative financing mechanisms, including blended finance, can play an important role in upscaling our collective efforts to cover the finance needs to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing also that entrepreneurship can help achieve the 2030 Agenda, underlining the importance of advancing sustainable consumption and production patterns, and stressing the need to promote sustainable and innovative financing opportunities and mechanisms to unlock new capital for sustainable investment and upscale sustainable business models, with a special focus on micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises,

Emphasizing that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems, and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, and in this regard stressing that the likelihood of an increase in global foreign direct investment is further tempered by a series of risk factors,

Emphasizing also that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals is not possible without private and public investment, including long-term foreign investment, which can be mobilized when there is an enabling environment at all levels,

Recognizing the importance of corporate sustainability, including reporting on environmental, social and governance impacts, as appropriate, to help to ensure transparency and accountability and avoid practices that counteract efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reaffirming the commitment to significantly increase investments to close the gender gap and strengthen support for institutions in relation to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at the global, regional and national levels,

Noting with concern that investments critical to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals remain underfunded, and recognizing that additional public and private investment and financing at the national and international levels will be required to meet the large investment needs, associated with gaps, for achieving the Goals, including in quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all,

Recognizing that international public finance, including official development assistance, is important to the efforts of developing countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, including through its capacity to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private, as it can support improved tax collection and help to strengthen domestic enabling environments and build essential public services,

Emphasizing that the call for the contribution by the private sector to Sustainable Development Goals financing is not a substitute for but rather an important complement to public financing,

[73] See E/FFDF/2022/3.

Underlining that, in order to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, both public and private finance should be sustainable and provided at affordable terms,

Emphasizing the need to continue to scale up investments in climate action, including by making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development, in line with the Paris Agreement,[74] and reiterating the need to accelerate the transfer and deployment of environmentally sound and low-emission technologies on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, and mutually agreed terms,

Noting with concern that, although global foreign direct investment flows increased in 2021, flows to developing countries grew more slowly than those to developed countries, and that the recovery in foreign direct investment is projected to continue to benefit regions unevenly, with Africa, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries receiving small or negligible levels of foreign direct investment,

Stressing that transparency and inclusion in the international financial, monetary and trading systems and solid institutions at all levels and the design and implementation of policies, including capital market regulations, where appropriate, that promote incentives along the investment chain, that are aligned with long-term performance and sustainability indicators and that reduce volatility, are essential for investment promotion, sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation that goes hand-in-hand with technical education and vocational training in developing countries, and in this regard stressing the need for further international support as well as competitive investment climates at all levels for developing countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing that socially and environmentally responsible and accountable national and international private business activity, investment, entrepreneurship and innovation, including equal access for all women and youth, are major drivers of productivity, inclusive economic growth and job creation, in order to leave no one behind,

Noting the role of the United Nations Development Programme Istanbul International Centre for Private Sector in Development in its engagement with the private sector to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and promote inclusive markets and sustainable business development,

Recognizing the importance of investments in technological industry and the digital economy to promote connectivity and digital partnerships, and that development and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms is a powerful driver of sustainable development and that there is a need to foster linkages between multinational companies and the domestic public and private sectors, as appropriate, to facilitate technology development and transfer on mutually agreed terms,

1. *Emphasizes* that promoting investments in value addition and in the processing of natural resources and productive diversification ensures more inclusive and sustainable development, and in this regard encourages accelerated national efforts and the strengthening of international cooperation in areas that support policies and programmes that increase public and private, domestic and international investments for structural change in the economies of developing countries;

2. *Encourages* the promotion of sustainable and innovative financing opportunities and mechanisms to unlock new capital for sustainable investment and upscale sustainable business models, with a special focus on micro- , small and medium-sized enterprises;

3. *Notes with concern* that many of the least developed countries and small island developing States continue to be largely sidelined by foreign direct investment that could help to diversify their economies, despite improvements in their investment climates;

4. *Also notes with concern* the gap in access to capital and adequate support services for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, in particular for businesses led by women, young entrepreneurs and persons with disabilities, and recognizes that financial markets as well as business support organizations can be powerful vehicles for sustainable and inclusive economic growth and poverty alleviation, including when they support businesses that have a sustainable development impact and when access to credit is inclusive across all segments of an economy;

[74] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

5. *Recognizes* that foreign direct investment can have positive spillovers, such as know-how and technology, including through establishing linkages with domestic suppliers, as well as encouraging the integration of local enterprises, in particular micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in developing countries, into regional and global value chains;

6. *Emphasizes* that foreign direct investment may have different impacts on Sustainable Development Goals, and underlines the need to strengthen the alignment of foreign direct investment with national policies and sustainable development strategies and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[75] and invites States preparing integrated national financing frameworks to include and implement plans for mobilizing and aligning private finance with national development plans;

7. *Recognizes* the need to develop and strengthen policies to better align private sector incentives with Sustainable Development Goals, and acknowledges that sustainable finance taxonomies can be a helpful tool in creating more transparency and can thus incentivize the private sector to adopt and invest in sustainable practices and foster long-term quality investment;

8. *Encourages* national and international efforts to integrate sustainability into the financial system and thus to further reorient capital flows towards investments that are sustainable from an economic, social and environmental perspective;

9. *Calls for* increased foreign direct investments, particularly in developing countries, which have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and current multiple crises, while recognizing the key role of foreign direct investments for economic growth and development and that foreign direct investments can reduce inequalities and can help commodity-dependent countries to transition to manufacturing activities and other higher-value-added activities;

10. *Encourages* financial actors at all levels to work towards the establishment of inclusive, representative and responsible financial practices, including practices related to transparency, disclosure and standards, as appropriate;

11. *Welcomes* the progress made by many countries in strengthening the enabling environment for private sector businesses and investments, but notes that more can be done to create competitive business and investment climates, including by increasing efforts to combat corruption, promoting market transparency, improving access to market information and easing the process of setting up businesses, that are well placed to attract private sector investment and participation in support of sustainable development;

12. *Reiterates* that greater gender equality in the distribution of economic resources can provide the means for women to generate income and creates positive multiplier effects for the achievement of inclusive, equitable and sustainable economic growth, and in this regard reiterates the need for targeted actions and investments;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of private sector engagement with national, international and intergovernmental organizations, Member States and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in an effective, accountable and consultative manner;

14. *Notes* the importance of sustainable corporate practices, including integrating environmental, social and governance factors into company reporting, as appropriate, with countries deciding on the appropriate balance of voluntary and mandatory rules, and encourages businesses to adopt principles for responsible business and investing;

15. *Acknowledges* the importance of corporate sustainability reporting, encourages companies, especially publicly listed and large companies, to integrate sustainability and due diligence information into their reporting cycles, encourages industry, interested Governments and relevant stakeholders, with the support of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to enhance existing models and develop new models for best practice and to facilitate action for the integration of sustainability reporting, taking into account experiences from already existing frameworks and paying particular attention to the needs of developing countries, including for capacity-building, and welcomes in this context the collaboration of the United Nations Global Compact with the Global Reporting Initiative and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development;

[75] Resolution 70/1.

16. *Calls upon* Member States to reduce tensions and other risk factors and to foster environments that are conducive to scaling up long-term and sustainable investments, characterized by, inter alia, open, transparent and non-discriminatory investment policies;

17. *Notes with concern* the growing number of slum dwellers and the adverse effects on their health, safety and livelihood opportunities, and in this regard encourages targeted investments to ensure affordable and adequate housing as well as sustained investment for Sustainable Development Goal targets in these sectors by 2030;

18. *Emphasizes* that the private sector can contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in many ways, including through applying creative and innovative solutions to solving sustainable development challenges, the alignment of its business models with the Sustainable Development Goals, and supporting the efforts of the public sector in, inter alia, disaster risk reduction, climate action and skills development, in accordance with national plans and policies;

19. *Welcomes* the growing interest among investors in taking sustainability issues into account in their investment decisions, but acknowledges that further work is needed to analyse, monitor and measure its contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals and maximize its positive development impact;

20. *Acknowledges* that reducing disaster risk, as outlined in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[76] is a cost-effective investment in preventing future losses, encourages Member States to develop standards, legislation and regulations, as appropriate, for disaster risk-informed public and private sector investments, including on risk disclosure in investments and transactions, and to ensure that pipeline and bankable projects include multi-hazard and other measures that assess, prevent and mitigate risks, including in infrastructure and the real estate sector, and in this regard encourages Member States to routinely conduct stress testing of infrastructure systems;

21. *Encourages* Member States to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions in an innovative, integrated, transparent, inclusive and equitable manner, which requires sufficient, sustainable and predictable investment through both the public and the private sectors;

22. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to explore the possibilities of taking sustainability factors into account in credit rating assessments and to strengthen credit markets to promote the growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, in particular those owned by women;

23. *Recognizes* the growing momentum around sustainable investment and finance, including through investments in Sustainable Development Goal bonds, and invites private companies to adopt sustainable practices that foster long-term value;

24. *Acknowledges with great concern* the devastating economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which undermines countries' ability to implement the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement and threatens to upend the progress made recently in promoting investment in the Sustainable Development Goals, notes the role of multi-stakeholder partnerships, including with the public and private sectors, to foster strategic investment in the Sustainable Development Goals, especially in areas that could contribute more to combat COVID-19 and its resulting socioeconomic impacts, including through innovative financing, inter alia, in health-care systems, including universal health coverage; food security, including agricultural and food production and related supply chains; digital connectivity; job creation; sustainable and quality infrastructure development and growth in productivity; as well as to ensure an environment-responsive approach to COVID-19 recovery and to counter the shortfall in investment that the pandemic entails, calls upon all stakeholders to cooperate in order to enhance resilience and sustainability in global supply chains and strengthen international investment, including by aligning investments with the 2030 Agenda, and encourages cooperation to facilitate cross-border travel of persons for essential purposes, without undermining efforts to prevent the spread of the virus;

25. *Stresses* the need to take stock of public and private initiatives to measure investment impacts on the Sustainable Development Goals, identify their similarities and differences, and lay out potential gaps;

26. *Welcomes* in this regard the request, in the outcome document of the 2019 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, to the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development to

[76] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

further its analysis on the impact and metrics for measurement of the contribution of private sector investments and instruments to the Sustainable Development Goals at the global level,[77] and encourages international support for Member States, according to national circumstances and priorities, to voluntarily develop practical tools on measuring and collecting timely and reliable data on the private sector contribution towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level, as appropriate;

27. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically and that official development assistance, as a critical source for development finance, helps developing countries to secure sufficient public resources to invest in sectors that could accelerate the delivery of the transformational ambition of the 2030 Agenda, and notes in this regard the need to intensify efforts to meet respective commitments, focusing the most concessional resources on those with the greatest needs and least ability to mobilize other resources;

28. *Notes* the potential of blended finance, including its ability to crowd in, leverage or catalyse additional financing, and stresses that projects should be aligned with national priorities, have long-lasting development impact and be in the public interest, while recognizing that, for different Sustainable Development Goal investment areas, different types of finance may represent the most effective financing modalities;

29. *Encourages* Member States to promote shareholder and consumer engagement that may encourage companies to take into account consumers' sustainability preferences;

30. *Calls upon* development partners to continue to support efforts to strengthen policy frameworks to incentivize finance for productive investment, including building capacity to access available, additional and sustainable sources of financing, including concessional finance, particularly in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and African countries, and taking into account the specific challenges faced by middle-income countries;

31. *Notes* the policy proposals put forward by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in its *World Investment Report 2022: International Tax Reform and Sustainable Investment*, in particular that the international community should support developing countries, especially in Africa and the least developed countries, including through scaling up technical assistance to take advantage of international tax reforms, and calls upon the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to work in collaboration with multiple stakeholders to help developing countries to avail themselves of these recommendations;

32. *Encourages* States, development partners and the private sector to invest in technological development, to build more resilient supply chains, increase productive capacity and economic diversification in developing countries, share and transfer technology and know-how on mutually agreed terms and improve domestic investment climates to facilitate mass production, especially of safe, quality, effective and affordable vaccines, therapeutics and medical equipment, promote job creation, adequate training and capacity-building and wealth creation, increase investment in quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including through the full utilization of the United Nations development system, the World Bank and other multilateral institutions in addressing the capacity and funding gaps, building a pipeline of bankable, quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure projects and exploring innovative platform approaches to coordinating, scaling up and channelling public and private finance and technical assistance, increase all components of international public finance, including the catalytic use of official development assistance, domestic and international private sector finance, domestic resource mobilization, and trade, and reduce the average transaction cost of migrant remittances;

33. *Emphasizes* the need for technical assistance and capacity-building support for investment promotion and developing project pipelines and bankable projects, in particular for developing countries;

34. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and all relevant stakeholders to support the capacity-building of developing countries in their efforts to close the Sustainable Development Goals investment gaps, especially at the country programme level, on the use of public finance to leverage private investment for projects benefiting sustainable development;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to inform the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session of the implementation of the

[77] See E/FFDF/2019/3.

present resolution, based on their ongoing research, through a dedicated section of the *World Investment Report*, with a special focus on promoting investments for sustainable development as well as concrete recommendations, including on strategic sectors to invest for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and looks forward to the continuing consideration of these issues in the forthcoming reports of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development;

36. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "Promoting investments for sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 77/156

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/442, para. 12)[78]

77/156. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 70/192 of 22 December 2015, 71/217 of 21 December 2016, 72/208 of 20 December 2017, 73/223 of 20 December 2018, 74/207 of 19 December 2019, 75/208 of 21 December 2020 and 76/198 of 17 December 2021 on the follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development and its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

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,[79] 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,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and the third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015,

Reaffirming 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 also the Paris Agreement[80] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[81] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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[78] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[79] Resolution 70/1.

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

[81] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Reiterating the affirmation in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls and attaining the full realization of their human rights are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development,

Recalling the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[82] and its goal to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk and the commitment contained in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to strengthen the capacity of national and local actors to manage and finance disaster risk, as part of national sustainable development strategies, and to ensure that countries can draw on international assistance when needed,

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,

Noting with concern the fragile and highly uncertain global socioeconomic outlook, persisting negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitical tensions and conflicts and current multiple crises, which have increased pressure on food, energy and finance, affecting many countries around the world and their ability to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing the need to introduce systemic solutions to address the socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and overcome the inequalities between and within countries exacerbated by the pandemic and current multiple crises, noting that many developing countries are faced with significantly higher borrowing costs to finance their response to the pandemic, contributing to a great finance divide that further undermines the achievement of a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery, while turbocharging the full implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reaffirming the call on the United Nations system, in consultation with the international financial institutions, to develop transparent measurements of progress on sustainable development that go beyond per capita income, building on existing initiatives as appropriate, and noting that these should recognize poverty in all of its forms and dimensions, and the social, economic and environmental dimensions of domestic output and structural gaps at all levels,

Emphasizing the urgent need to develop measures of progress on sustainable development that complement or go beyond gross domestic product in order to work towards a more inclusive approach to international cooperation,

Welcoming the work advanced by the High-level Panel on the Development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index for Small Island Developing States, and looking forward to the finalization of this work,

Reaffirming the importance of addressing the diverse needs of and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, as well as the specific challenges faced by middle-income countries,

Taking note of the holding of preparatory meetings for the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, such as the annual retreat of the Group of Friends of Monterrey,

Welcoming the convening of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, from 25 to 28 April 2022,

[82] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

Recalling the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the forum,[83] in which it was decided that the eighth Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up would convene from 24 to 27 April 2023 and would include the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and in which the General Assembly was invited to consider the need to convene a fourth international conference on financing for development,

Noting the adoption by the Statistical Commission of the proposed new indicator 17.3.1 under Sustainable Development Goal target 17.3, Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources, and the continuation of holding open, inclusive and transparent discussions on the modernization of official development assistance measurement and the new measure of "total official support for sustainable development", while reaffirming that any such measure will not dilute commitments already made,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 2017/206 of 5 October 2016,

Recalling also the seventh biennial high-level meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum, held virtually on 6 and 7 May 2021, and its outcomes,[84] and looking forward to the eighth biennial high-level meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum, to be held on 14 and 15 March 2023,

Recalling further the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development held on 26 September 2019, and looking forward to the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, which will be held back-to-back with the Sustainable Development Goals Summit[85] in 2023 under the auspices of the General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of the fourth annual meeting of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance, on 12 October 2022, and the ongoing work on its key deliverables, looking forward to continued efforts by the Alliance to support the channelling of finance and investment towards the Sustainable Development Goals, and noting the continued implementation of the objectives of the strategy of the Secretary-General for financing the 2030 Agenda (2018–2021),

Reaffirming the outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019,[86]

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Recommitting to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[87] notes with concern the lack of progress made on financing for development commitments since the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[88] and the Sustainable Development Goals while acknowledging that a rapidly changing world has affected implementation and that the challenges of the moment merit the attention and focus of policymakers at the highest level, and expresses concern that the mobilization of sufficient financing from all sources, including official development assistance, remains a major challenge in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

[83] See E/FFDF/2022/3.

[84] See E/2021/70.

[85] High-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly.

[86] Resolution 73/291, annex.

[87] A/77/223.

[88] Resolution 69/313, annex.

2. *Emphasizes* the need to work towards the full and timely implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, including to reaffirm and build on the achievements of the Doha Declaration[89] and the Monterrey Consensus;[90]

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development,[91] and notes with concern the report's key message of a lost decade of sustainable development where many developed countries saw a rapid economic recovery from the pandemic shock in 2021 while many developing countries did not regain lost ground, resulting in a severe setback to the Sustainable Development Goals, with an additional 77 million people living in extreme poverty in 2021 and a dramatic increase in inequality;

4. *Recognizes* that, in combating the negative impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and in order to achieve a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery, a functioning global financial safety net, with a strong, quota-based and adequately resourced International Monetary Fund at its centre, is important to support a global economic recovery, welcomes the special drawing rights allocation of the equivalent of 650 billion United States dollars of 23 August 2021, recommends the exploration of further voluntary options related to special drawing rights that could serve the needs of developing member countries of the International Monetary Fund, commends countries that pledged 81.6 billion dollars through the voluntary channelling of special drawing rights or equivalent contributions, calls for further pledges from all willing and able countries to meet the total global ambition of 100 billion dollars of voluntary contributions for countries most in need, takes note with appreciation of the operationalization of the Resilience and Sustainability Trust of the Fund to help eligible countries to address longer-term structural challenges that pose macroeconomic risks, and notes that debt sustainability and liquidity can play an important role in achieving a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery and the Sustainable Development Goals;

5. *Welcomes* the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the 2022 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up and urges their full, effective and timely implementation, and looks forward to staying engaged so as to assess progress, identify obstacles and challenges in the implementation of the financing for development outcomes and in the delivery of the means of implementation, promote the sharing of lessons learned from experiences at the national and regional levels, address new and emerging topics of relevance to the implementation of this agenda as the need arises and provide policy recommendations for action by the international community in substantive intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations at the 2023 forum;

6. *Notes* in this regard the further development of integrated national financing frameworks, in support of nationally owned sustainable development strategies, including disaster risk reduction strategies, in order to further implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, aimed at effectively mobilizing and aligning a wide range of financing sources and instruments with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and making use of the full potential of all means of implementation;

7. *Takes note* of the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the 2022 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;[92]

8. *Emphasizes* that timely and adequate planning for the 2023 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up is of paramount importance to its substantive work and outcome;

9. *Invites* the President of the Economic and Social Council to take into consideration the summary by the President of the Council of the 2022 forum on financing for development follow-up in the preparation of the 2023 forum;

10. *Recalls* that decisions relating to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up are to be contained within the forum's intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations;

11. *Takes note* of the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and the initial contributions made by India to the voluntary trust fund, by Norway to a multi-donor project aimed at supporting

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[89] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[90] *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.

[91] *Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2022* (United Nations publication, 2022).

[92] A/77/82-E/2022/64.

the work of the Committee, its subcommittees and related capacity-development activities, as well as the contributions by the European Union and other countries in support of the Committee's subsidiary bodies, and urges Member States to come forward to contribute more to the trust fund in order to further support the participation of developing countries;

12. *Recalls* the holding of the 2020 Global Infrastructure Forum from 6 to 8 October 2020, in a virtual setting, and reiterates that the Forum is mandated to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and African countries;

13. *Also recalls* the progress made in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and welcomes the establishment of the 2030 Connect online platform as part of the Mechanism;

14. *Further recalls* the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, and invites Member States, as well as international organizations, foundations and the private sector, to provide increased voluntary financial contributions and technical assistance to ensure its full and effective implementation;

15. *Highlights* the need to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet by 2030 as an essential step towards an inclusive and sustainable digital economy that empowers people in vulnerable situations, and to build on financial technology to support financial inclusion;

16. *Recalls* the convening of the seventh annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals in New York on 5 and 6 May 2022, whose Co-Chairs' summary[93] served as an input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development and highlighted, inter alia, the promotion of networking and matchmaking among relevant stakeholders, especially innovators, funders and other supporters, to bridge the technology gap for the Sustainable Development Goals;

17. *Also recalls* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize the means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, the implementation of which requires following up on, that relate to its seven action areas, namely, domestic public resources; domestic and international private business and finance; international development cooperation; international trade as an engine for development; debt and debt sustainability; addressing systemic issues; and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building; and data, monitoring and follow-up;

18. *Reiterates* that States will not be able to achieve the ambitious Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda without a revitalized and enhanced global partnership and comparably ambitious means of implementation, and reaffirms the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

19. *Notes* that official development assistance reached its highest level in 2021 during the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis, underscores the need for this trend to continue, urges development partners to scale up and fulfil their respective 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 and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and notes that all development partners should align their support with the priorities of recipient countries, as identified in the national sustainable development strategies of developing countries;

20. *Encourages* strengthening the lending capacity of multilateral development banks, in that regard urges them to make the most efficient use of their balance sheets in order to optimize their lending while preserving their robust credit ratings, financial sustainability and preferred creditor status, and takes note of the independent review of the banks' capital adequacy frameworks and ongoing balance sheet optimization efforts, commissioned by the Group of 20;

21. *Notes* the policy recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and that the agreed policy

[93] See E/HLPF/2022/6.

recommendations serve as an input to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up in accordance with the terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts;

22. *Also notes* that, in order to advance bold and concerted global action to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and achieve a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery, and set the world on a path towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, COVID-19 response measures, both domestic efforts and multilateral action, as well as multi-stakeholder partnerships that include the private sector, should be geared to supporting medium- and long-term sustainable development, particularly in developing countries, emphasizes the importance of improving investment and financing in sectors that are critical to accelerating the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other agreed commitments to support countries in special situations, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, stresses the need to promote quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, particularly in developing countries, in a manner that has the greatest social, economic and environmental benefits, in order to build resilience against shocks for an inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizes the important role of the United Nations development system, the World Bank and other multilateral institutions in addressing the capacity gaps and funding requirements for developing quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure projects, especially in developing countries, working through existing initiatives;

23. *Welcomes* the mapping exercise to be conducted by the Secretary-General, as mandated under General Assembly resolution 76/215 of 17 December 2021, to provide a detailed overview of the current support available to middle-income countries aimed at better addressing the multidimensional nature of sustainable development and facilitating sustainable development cooperation and coordinated and inclusive support to middle-income countries;

24. *Calls upon* all Member States to continue to engage in discussions in consultation with relevant stakeholders, including international financial institutions, multilateral development banks and regional commissions, on measures of progress on sustainable development that complement or go beyond gross domestic product, taking into account existing initiatives, to have a more inclusive approach to international cooperation;

25. *Looks forward* to the proposals to be presented by the Secretary-General regarding measures of progress that complement or go beyond gross domestic product, building upon the complementary measures already in place, for the consideration of Member States;

26. *Welcomes* the progress achieved so far, takes note with appreciation of the interim report published by the High-level Panel on the Development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index for Small Island Developing States, looks forward to the finalization of the work of the Panel, and encourages the international community to consider multidimensional vulnerability, including the potential of a multidimensional vulnerability index, as criteria to access concessional finance;

27. *Decides* to consider convening, in 2025, a fourth international conference on financing for development to, inter alia, assess the progress made in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, identifying obstacles and constraints encountered in the achievement of the goals and objectives agreed therein, as well as actions and initiatives to overcome these constraints, and to address new and emerging issues;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session an action-oriented report, presenting emerging challenges and key accelerators for financing for development that may be relevant for future discussions in the framework of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up and on a fourth international conference on financing for development;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development".

RESOLUTION 77/157

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 160 to 8, with 5 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443, para. 32)[94]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Guatemala, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, South Sudan

77/157. Oil slick on Lebanese shores

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/194 of 20 December 2006, 62/188 of 19 December 2007, 63/211 of 19 December 2008, 64/195 of 21 December 2009, 65/147 of 20 December 2010, 66/192 of 22 December 2011, 67/201 of 21 December 2012, 68/206 of 20 December 2013, 69/212 of 19 December 2014, 70/194 of 22 December 2015, 71/218 of 21 December 2016, 72/209 of 20 December 2017, 73/224 of 20 December 2018, 74/208 of 19 December 2019, 75/209 of 21 December 2020 and 76/199 of 17 December 2021 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

Reaffirming the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,[95] in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

Emphasizing the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

Taking into account the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[96] especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[97]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[98] recalling the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[99] which highlights the importance of improving preparedness and national coordination for disaster response, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, supported by strengthened modalities of international cooperation, and recalling also its resolution 71/256 of 23 December 2016, entitled "New Urban Agenda",

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[94] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[95] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5–16 June 1972* (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), part one, chap. I.

[96] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[97] Ibid., annex II.

[98] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[99] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

acknowledging that, in implementing the New Urban Agenda, particular attention should be given to addressing the unique and emerging urban development challenges facing, inter alia, countries affected by natural and human-made disasters,

Welcoming the declaration entitled "Our ocean, our future, our responsibility" as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 76/296 of 21 July 2022, which underlines the interlinkages and potential synergies between Goal 14 and the other Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the importance of halting and reversing the decline in the health of the ocean's ecosystems and biodiversity and of protecting and restoring its resilience and ecological integrity,

Noting with great concern the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Jiyah electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 61/194, 62/188, 63/211, 64/195, 65/147, 66/192, 67/201, 68/206, 69/212, 70/194, 71/218, 72/209, 73/224, 74/208, 75/209 and 76/199,

Noting that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

Recalling that, in paragraph 5 of its resolution 76/199, it reiterated its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the General Assembly has yet to be implemented,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

Acknowledging also the conclusions on measuring and quantifying the environmental damage set out in the report of the Secretary-General,[100]

Noting again with appreciation the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

Acknowledging that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration trust fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the trust fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Reiterates*, for the seventeenth consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese Jiyah electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;

3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health in the country;

4. *Acknowledges* the conclusions in the report of the Secretary-General, in which he stated that studies show that the value of the damage to Lebanon amounted to 856.4 million United States dollars in 2014, and requests the Secretary-General to urge United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations involved in the initial assessment of the relevant environmental damage to undertake, within existing resources, a further study, building on, inter alia, the initial work of the World Bank presented in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General

[100] A/77/272.

Assembly at its sixty-second session,[101] with a view to measuring and quantifying the environmental damage sustained by neighbouring countries;

5. *Reiterates its request* in this regard to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the aforementioned damage and to other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean basin;

7. *Welcomes* the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration trust fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly and adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at the Jiyah electric power plant;

8. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to intensify their support for Lebanon in this matter, particularly for recovery and rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast, reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the trust fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the trust fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled “Sustainable development”.

RESOLUTION 77/158

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443, para. 32)[102]

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[101] A/62/343.

[102] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia.

77/158. International Year of Glaciers' Preservation, 2025

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming 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 also 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, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international day or year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Noting that glaciers are a critical component of the hydrological cycle and that the current accelerated melting and retreat of glaciers have severe impacts on the climate, the environment, the maintenance of human well-being and health and sustainable development,

Noting with concern the findings contained in the special reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C* and *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*,

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement[103] and its early entry into force, encouraging all the parties to the Agreement to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[104] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible, and highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement,

Welcoming the holding of the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in Glasgow, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, from 31 October to 13 November 2021, and the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022,

Taking into account the links between the water and climate agendas, and the opportunity to promote them in the context of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, by building on actions on water adaptation and resilience and fostering early warning systems providing accessible, timely, reliable, disaggregated and fit-for-purpose data and monitoring, as well as providing support in relation to capacity-building and training, especially in developing countries,

Recognizing that, in many high mountain areas, glacier retreat and permafrost thaw are projected to further decrease the stability of slopes, and that the incidences of floods owing to glacier lake outburst or rain-on-snow, landslides and snow avalanches are projected to increase and occur in new locations or different seasons,

Noting that, over the past decades, global warming has led to widespread shrinking of the cryosphere, with mass loss from ice sheets and glaciers and reductions in snow cover, which have decreased the stability of high mountain areas and changed the amount and seasonality of run-off and water resources in snow-dominated and glacier-fed river basins, as well as contributed to localized declines in agricultural yields in some high mountain regions, water scarcity, including reduced downstream water availability, and increased global mean sea level,

[103] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[104] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Noting also that continuous global temperature rise may result in irreversible impacts on certain ecosystems with low resilience, such as polar, mountain and coastal delta ecosystems, impacted by ice sheet, glacier and snow cover melt and by accelerating and higher committed sea level rise,

Recognizing that the need for a worldwide inventory of existing perennial ice and snow masses was first considered during the International Hydrological Decade, declared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the period 1965–1974,

Stressing the urgent need to raise awareness of and to promote and facilitate actions and sustainable measures towards preserving glaciers, including through transboundary cooperation, as appropriate, as well as its integrated management at all levels,

Recognizing the importance of initiatives related to the Earth's cryosphere for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and for the implementation of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028,

Taking note of the outcomes of the second High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, held in Dushanbe from 6 to 9 June 2022, which support the initiative of Tajikistan on declaring an international year of glaciers' preservation in 2025, and noting with appreciation the intention to strengthen an international mechanism to facilitate access to accurate and timely information on the cryosphere,

1. *Decides* to declare 2025 the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation and to proclaim 21 March of each year the World Day for Glaciers, to be observed starting in 2025;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, individuals and other relevant stakeholders, to observe the International Year and the World Day, as appropriate, at all levels through activities aimed at raising awareness of the importance of glaciers, snow and ice in the climate system and the hydrological cycle, and the economic, social and environmental impacts of the impending changes in the Earth's cryosphere, and to share best practices and knowledge in this regard;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, in cooperation with Governments and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to facilitate implementation of the International Year and observance of the World Day, to take appropriate steps to organize the activities of the Year and the Day and to develop necessary proposals on all activities to support Member States in the implementation of the Year and observance of the Day;

4. *Welcomes* the generous offer of the Government of Tajikistan to convene an international conference dedicated to glaciers' preservation in Tajikistan in 2025 and to assume the costs of the conference;

5. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups, other relevant stakeholders and donors to voluntarily contribute to the trust fund in support of activities for glaciers' preservation,[105] to be coordinated by the Secretary-General, in partnership with relevant agencies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, to support countries in addressing issues related to accelerated melting of glaciers and its consequences;

6. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

7. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Meteorological Organization, mindful of the provisions of paragraphs 23 to 27 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to keep the General Assembly informed at its eighty-first session and further sessions about the implementation of the present resolution, including an evaluation of the implementation of the International Year and observance of the World Day;

[105] The trust fund to support the work of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

8. *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, including civil society, the private sector and academia, for appropriate observance of the International Year and the World Day.

RESOLUTION 77/159

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443, para. 32)[106]

77/159. Enhancing the role of parliaments in accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming 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,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and grounded in international law and the principle of leaving no one behind,

Recognizing the essential role of national parliaments and parliaments at other levels, where they exist, through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of their commitments,

Recalling its resolution 76/270 of 21 June 2022 on interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in which it recognized the actions and contributions of parliaments at the national, regional and global levels, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships, in support of the accelerated achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030,

Highlighting the importance of women's full, equal and meaningful participation in parliaments, including in leadership positions and in decision-making at all levels, and the importance for parliaments to mainstream a gender perspective in their work,

Acknowledging the role and responsibility of parliaments with regard to national plans and strategies aimed at fully implementing the 2030 Agenda, as well as in ensuring greater transparency and accountability at both the national and the global levels,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2017/23 of 7 July 2017, in which the Council encouraged all Governments to inform and engage their parliaments in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, while noting that some parliaments have taken a proactive role in their implementation,

Taking into account the first Global Parliamentary Meeting on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, held by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the House of Representatives of Indonesia in September 2021, on "Turning the challenges of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic into opportunities for parliaments to achieve the

[106] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

Sustainable Development Goals", and looking forward to further engagement to bring parliaments together at a critical time to support the achievement of the Goals,

Noting with great concern the severe negative impact on human health, safety and well-being caused by the 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,

Emphasizing that success in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions depends on the creation of enabling environments at all levels,

Mindful that rapid technological change includes new and powerful tools that can help to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda, and that the spread of information and communications technologies and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human development and bridge all digital divides, among and within countries, including the gender digital divide, and recognizing that national parliaments, among others, play an important role in addressing the impact, opportunities and challenges of rapid technological change,

Welcoming the work carried out, at the request of Member States, by the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and other international organizations of parliamentarians in support of national parliaments around the world in mobilizing action towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[107] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[108] the Paris Agreement[109] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[110]

1. *Emphasizes* the importance of parliamentary involvement in renewed commitment to unity, solidarity and multilateral cooperation to support an inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and accelerating the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, leaving no one behind, while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[111]

2. *Encourages* parliaments to assess the contribution of their countries' existing national legal frameworks to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, acknowledging that the Goals are integrated and indivisible and that policy coherence is key in achieving the 2030 Agenda as a whole;

3. *Encourages* Member States to promote the engagement and support of parliaments in the follow-up and review processes of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in the preparation of voluntary national reviews, in order to ensure and strengthen national ownership and accountability;

4. *Welcomes* the practice of including parliamentarians as members of national delegations to major United Nations meetings and events, as appropriate, including the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and invites Member States to continue this practice in a more regular and systematic manner, and with due consideration given to achieving gender balance within such delegations;

5. *Acknowledges* that a strong and constructive relationship between parliaments and independent oversight bodies is important for improving the effectiveness of efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages parliaments to ensure that their oversight mechanisms are well structured and have appropriate resources

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[107] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[108] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[109] Adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[110] *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.

[111] Resolution 70/1.

and equipment, as well as access to expertise and resources, to ensure qualified monitoring and evaluation of national development plans and strategies aimed at fully implementing the 2030 Agenda;

6. *Encourages* public awareness of parliamentary processes and opportunities for public engagement in monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

7. *Underscores* the importance of analytical support to parliamentarians on the respective government budget proposal to enable effective financing for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

8. *Encourages* Member States, including their parliaments, to place gender equality and the empowerment of women at the centre of their efforts to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and promote the full, equal and meaningful participation and representation of women in parliaments and their processes, including by considering the promotion of legislation and parliamentarian working methods that are gender-responsive and prevent all forms of violence and discrimination against women;

9. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure that laws, mechanisms and the parliament buildings are inclusive and accessible to encourage and empower persons with disabilities to participate in political and public life;

10. *Recognizes* the value and the contribution of youth to the full and successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and therefore recommends that parliaments seek ways to achieve the full, equal and meaningful participation of youth in parliamentary processes, as appropriate, related to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

11. *Encourages* communication among parliaments, including within the Inter-Parliamentary Union, to work closely to support national, regional and international efforts to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to promote the leadership role of parliaments in accelerating the achievement of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals in a balanced and integrated manner, reaffirming the commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – and encourages the United Nations to work with Member States, upon their request, on strengthening the institutional capacity of parliaments in this regard;

13. *Recommends* inter-parliamentary cooperation, including through the Inter-Parliamentary Union, to inspire ambitious collective plans, enhance mutual learning and sharing of best practices, enhance knowledge-sharing and awareness-raising among parliamentarians and generate momentum to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

RESOLUTION 77/160

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 145 to 27, with 4 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443, para. 32)[112]

* *In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi,

[112] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Zambia

Against: Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

Abstaining: Angola, China, South Africa, Sri Lanka

77/160. Entrepreneurship for sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/202 of 21 December 2012, 69/210 of 19 December 2014, 71/221 of 21 December 2016, 73/225 of 20 December 2018 and 75/211 of 21 December 2020,

Reaffirming 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 also its resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B of 25 June 2021 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental and the wish to see the Sustainable Development Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

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,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[113] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[114] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible, and noting the holding of the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Glasgow, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, from 31 October to 13 November 2021, as well as the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[115] and reaffirming that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among other things, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk reduction management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework,

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

[114] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[115] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

Recalling also relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries,[116] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[117] the Vienna Declaration and Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[118] taking note of Agenda 2063 of the African Union, and recognizing the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[119] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[120] and the outcome documents of their review conferences,

Acknowledging that entrepreneurship and innovation are essential for harnessing the economic potential of each nation and the importance of supporting mass entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, which create new momentum for economic growth and decent job creation and expand opportunities for all, including women and youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples and those in vulnerable situations,

Recalling relevant agreed conclusions and resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including the agreed conclusions adopted at its sixty-first session, entitled "Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work",[121] and the agreed conclusions adopted at its sixty-second session, entitled "Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls",[122] stressing that women and girls, particularly in developing countries, are important drivers of entrepreneurship and sustainable development, calling for measures to enable women to leverage science and technology for entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, and recognizing the importance of policies and programmes that eliminate discrimination against women and provide public infrastructure to ensure equal access for women and men entrepreneurs,

Recognizing that multi-stakeholder partnerships and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important in order to mobilize and access knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of Governments and contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits, as well as support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, including developing countries,

Underlining the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for achieving sustainable development and to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and reaffirming that good governance, the rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms, equal access to fair justice systems and measures to combat corruption and curb illicit financial flows will be integral to those efforts,

Emphasizing the pivotal role of entrepreneurship in achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, and emphasizing that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires the talents, creativity and entrepreneurial vigour of the entire population,

Expressing concern that multiple simultaneous and interlinked global shocks and crises, including the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and its consequences, the adverse impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification, pollution and other aspects of environmental degradation, rising geopolitical tensions and conflicts with widespread effects on people, planet, prosperity and peace, increasing food and energy prices and supply chain disruptions are factors driving and compounding increased social and economic instability, which are disproportionately affecting vulnerable groups, micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and in particular those

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[116] Resolution 76/258, annex.

[117] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[118] Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.

[119] *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.

[120] *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.

[121] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 7* (E/2017/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[122] Ibid., *2018, Supplement No. 7* (E/2018/27), chap. I, sect. A.

owned by women and young people, including through business uncertainty, higher operational costs and unfavourable borrowing conditions, in particular in developing countries,

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 that the ongoing crisis can lead to an increase in entrepreneurial activity, in the form of necessity entrepreneurship, and noting with concern the negative effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on necessity entrepreneurs, who often constitute the majority of the workforce in low and middle-income countries, often operating informally, and are more vulnerable and left with few avenues to access support in times of crisis,

Noting that the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated technological change, having sped up the adoption of digital tools in many areas of life, bringing with it new opportunities such as, inter alia, the adoption of digital tools for remote work and the acceleration of digitalization in developing countries, while further recognizing the contribution of digital technologies to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurs in adaptation to global shocks including through digital marketing, online sales, e-commerce, health tech and fintech, enabling better access to financial services as well as facilitating formalization,

Recognizing the important contribution that entrepreneurship makes to sustainable development by creating jobs, 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 also that entrepreneurship can help to address environmental challenges and advance or promote energy sustainability through the introduction of new climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies and resilience measures, delivering energy-efficient products and providing renewable energy equipment, as well as by promoting environmentally sustainable consumption and production patterns,

Recognizing further the positive contribution that entrepreneurship can make in promoting social cohesion, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including women, young people, persons with disabilities and the most vulnerable people, and reaching the furthest behind first,

Noting the role that entrepreneurship can play in supporting participation in the labour market for persons with disabilities, and that promoting the feasibility of entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities will increase awareness of entrepreneurship as a potential labour market activity, not only for persons with disabilities, but also for self-employment and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and noting also that persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities, face disproportionate and intersecting forms of discrimination, including in access to financial resources,

Recalling its resolution 71/279 of 6 April 2017 on Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day,

Recognizing the importance of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, which globally represent about 90 per cent of businesses and account for over two thirds of employment, and emphasizing their role in supporting achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular through promoting innovation, creativity and decent work for all,

Recognizing also the importance of formalizing micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and of encouraging their participation and growth in international, regional and national markets, including through access for all to capacity-building, digital government and business and financial services, such as affordable microfinance and credit,

Remaining deeply concerned by continued high rates of youth unemployment, particularly in developing countries, which stifle the transformative potential of young people in sustainable development,

Recognizing the key role of youth entrepreneurship in sustainable economic growth and in generating innovative solutions and transformational development, and taking note in this regard of the Youth Forum Declaration adopted in 2021 in the lead-up to the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[123] which set out the priorities and recommendations for a resilient recovery in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, with youth entrepreneurship as one of its key components, and welcoming the United Nations Youth Strategy and the establishment of the United Nations Youth Office,

Reaffirming its commitment to substantially increase the number of young people and adults who have relevant skills, including foundational learning skills, transferable skills, technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship, and acknowledging the importance of strengthening education systems, including vocational training, in order to develop relevant skills and competences for a rapidly changing society and transition to sustainable and digital economies,

Acknowledging that social entrepreneurship plays an important role in achieving the sustainable development challenges by applying innovative market-based solutions to social and environmental problems, while being financially sustainable, and providing job and income opportunities for disadvantaged groups and those in vulnerable situations,

Acknowledging also the importance of promoting inclusive development-oriented policies, including through alternative economic and business models and concepts that support productive activities, job creation and entrepreneurship, including social and sustainable entrepreneurship, and creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services, including digital financial services, and the improvement of financial literacy, and in this regard recognizing the role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization that could contribute to job creation for all,

Recognizing that businesses will play a central role in the transition towards sustainable development and a more resource-efficient economy, such as circular economy, contributing to the achievement of sustainable consumption and production by adapting their business models and value chains,

Noting with concern that societal attitudes and negative preconceptions, in particular towards women and girls, including the fear of failure, the lack of opportunity and insufficient support structures, can undermine efforts to create a culture of entrepreneurship,

Recognizing the importance of quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data for monitoring progress in the implementation of entrepreneurship policies and their direct and indirect contribution to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, and addressing sex-disaggregated data gaps, to ensure that no one is left behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[124]

2. *Reiterates* the need to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, in that regard emphasizes the importance of improved regulatory environments and policy initiatives that promote entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, and foster micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and stresses the positive role that entrepreneurship plays in driving job creation, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including for women and youth;

3. *Also reiterates* the need to strengthen women's economic resilience by supporting them in accessing and mobilizing adequate financial resources and technologies and to undertake capacity-building to promote women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, and, in addition, to empower women through entrepreneurship by increasing their employment and market opportunities through targeted education and training and greater legal protections in the workplace;

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[123] TD/523.

[124] A/77/254.

4. *Encourages* Governments to take a coordinated and inclusive approach to promoting entrepreneurship involving all stakeholders, while noting initiatives of civil society, academia and the private sector as important entrepreneurship drivers, and to develop coherent and targeted policies and strategies, taking into account national priorities and circumstances, that address the legal, social and regulatory barriers to equal, effective economic participation, and stresses the need for a comprehensive and holistic approach to entrepreneurship that includes long-term and cross-sectoral strategies, including through strengthening disaggregated data collection to generate better insights for the promotion of sustainable entrepreneurship and to monitor and evaluate progress in implementation;

5. *Acknowledges* that promoting entrepreneurship can stimulate new production processes and technology development, including the building of endogenous capacities for enabling climate change mitigation and adaptation and enhancing energy efficiency, and recognizes that such policies, which could draw on the initiatives presented in the Global Climate Action Agenda, could help Governments to meet their targets for the Paris Agreement on climate change;

6. *Also acknowledges* that the private sector contributes to the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and that partnerships with the private sector play an important role in promoting entrepreneurship, generating employment and investment, increasing revenue potential, developing new technologies and innovative business models and enabling high, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth while protecting workers' rights;

7. *Further acknowledges* the need for Member States to develop policies and, where appropriate, strengthen national and international policy regulatory frameworks and their coherence, harnessing the potential of science, technology and innovation, closing technology gaps and scaling up capacity-building at all levels to better align private sector incentives with public goals, including incentivizing the private sector to adopt sustainable practices, and foster long-term quality investment, taking into account the importance of responsible business practices and corporate social responsibility, as reflected in the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact and in the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[125] environmental, social and governance performance standards and greater transparency in supply chains to end forced and child labour;

8. *Recognizes* the vital role of entrepreneurship in the development of regional economic integration, which can be an important catalyst for implementing economic reforms, reducing trade barriers and decreasing trade costs;

9. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of national financial institutions to reach out to those who have no access to banking, insurance and other financial services, particularly women and women-led micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, sustainable and inclusive businesses, and digital entrepreneurs, in urban and especially in rural areas, including through the use of fintech and innovative tools, including mobile banking, payment platforms and digitalized payments, and encourages them to adopt regulatory and supervisory frameworks that facilitate the safe and sound provision of financial services, increase access to information to protect consumers and promote financial literacy, particularly for women, young people and the most vulnerable people;

10. *Also invites* Member States to support the digital entrepreneurship of women, including in e-commerce, including for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, to develop local solutions and relevant content, promote innovation and decent job creation and close the gender digital divide;

11. *Encourages* Member States to expand and support the expansion of alternative sources of financing, including blended finance as well as impact investing, cooperatives and venture philanthropy, venture capital and angel investors for start-ups, and diversify the retail financial service system to include non-traditional providers of financial services, such as microcredit and microfinance, stresses the value of a sound regulatory framework in this regard, and encourages the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor, with a particular emphasis on women;

12. *Emphasizes* the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing all workers from the informal to the formal economy, including the formalization of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, in order to integrate them into national social security and social protection systems, as appropriate, expand the formal economy, increase fiscal revenues, increase entrepreneurs' resilience and their access to finance and public support programmes, address

[125] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

barriers to continued operation in the formal sector, and boost growth perspectives, including by simplifying administrative processes, such as enabling business registration through single-window and e-registration procedures, notes that recommendation No. 204 of the International Labour Organization can provide useful guidance on the transition from the informal to the formal economy, and recognizes that women face unique barriers to entering the formal workforce;

13. *Invites* Member States to reduce the structural barriers to women in transitioning from the informal economy to formal employment and outline measures to recognize, reduce and redistribute women's and girls' disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work, reward and represent paid care work by promoting decent paid care and domestic work for women and men in the public and private sectors and by providing social protection, safe working conditions and equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, thereby facilitating the transition of informal workers, including those engaged in informal paid care and domestic work, into the formal economy;

14. *Recognizes* that technological improvement, particularly through the diffusion of technology, can provide new opportunities for businesses to improve their competitiveness, increase their productive capacities and resilience and adapt to shocks, and in this regard encourages Member States to increase cooperation in support of technology exchange and transfer on mutually agreed terms, innovation, capacity-building programmes and the sharing of best practices for promoting entrepreneurship, especially in developing countries;

15. *Also recognizes* the contribution of digital technologies and innovation to foster entrepreneurship and support the resilience and formalization of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and in this regard encourages Member States to support inclusive entrepreneurship through digitalization, including through digital government services, digital economic services, fintech, scaling up digital skills training and digital literacy, improved regulatory frameworks and developing targeted strategies to address digital divides, including the gender digital divide;

16. *Highlights* the importance of supporting technologies that can have a high social return, correspond to local needs and contribute to technological upgrading and social development;

17. *Recognizes* that entrepreneurs can address sustainable development challenges by developing effective and simple solutions in the areas of utility services, education, health care, hunger eradication and the environment, and that social entrepreneurship, including cooperatives and social enterprises, can help to alleviate poverty and catalyse social transformation by strengthening the productive capacities of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, and producing goods and services that are accessible to them;

18. *Acknowledges* the value of entrepreneurship education and the dissemination of entrepreneurial thinking across all sectors, encourages all relevant actors to increase efforts to systemically integrate entrepreneurship within the formal and informal education systems, including through, inter alia, skills development, career guidance to support entrepreneurship, behavioural approach programmes such as the Empretec programme and the Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Start and Improve Your Business programme of the International Labour Organization, the International Trade Centre programmes to support trade and international business development for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, capacity-building, professional training programmes, business incubators and national centres of excellence, as well as online platforms and e-mentorships, such as the SME Trade Academy of the International Trade Centre, and encourages cooperation and networking and the sharing of best practices while fostering innovation and using innovative teaching methods in line with the demands of the competitive markets and ensuring the full participation of women and girls;

19. *Encourages* all stakeholders, in particular women and young entrepreneurs, to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges, and emphasizes that local innovation and entrepreneurship systems need to be able to fully participate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[126] including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that concerted efforts are needed to ensure the participation of all;

20. *Reiterates* the need for the promotion and advancement of women in labour markets, including through policies and programmes aimed at the elimination of structural barriers and stereotypes that women of all ages face in the transition from school to work, and the need to address challenges faced by women returning from care-related career breaks and by older women, by providing access to technical and vocational skills training, as well as access

[126] Resolution 70/1.

to science, technology, engineering and mathematics training, entrepreneurship development and job-matching, fostering women's empowerment and enabling their full, equal, effective and meaningful participation and leadership and addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and barriers that they face, including violence, and the unequal distribution of unpaid care and work, and promoting their participation in relevant decision-making processes;

21. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to further develop financial literacy and financial education programmes that include an emphasis on the impact of finance on sustainable development, as appropriate, in order to ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to access financial services, in particular women and girls, farmers and those working in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

22. *Also encourages* Governments to facilitate women's entrepreneurship, including by improving access to financing and investment opportunities, tools of trade, business development and training, in order to increase trade and procurement, including public procurement from women's enterprises, including micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, cooperatives and self-help groups in both the public and private sectors such as the Women in Business and eTrade for Women initiatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the SheTrades initiative of the International Trade Centre;

23. *Further encourages* Governments to strengthen science and technology education policies and curricula to promote girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics so that they are relevant to the needs of and benefit women and girls, and encourages investment and research in sustainable technology that meets the needs of women, particularly in developing countries, in order to strengthen their capacities, so as to enable women to leverage science and technology for entrepreneurship and economic empowerment in the changing world of work;

24. *Highlights* the importance of developing and implementing policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship, in particular opportunities for new women entrepreneurs and those that lead to business expansion for existing women-owned micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to increase investments in women-owned companies and businesses, to reduce unnecessary administrative barriers in the regulatory environment, removing restrictions that deter women from engaging in business activities, and to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business, access to finance, administration and information and communications technology, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, in particular by financial institutions;

25. *Recognizes* that social entrepreneurs, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities, are agents of change who can drive innovative, economic, social and environmental solutions and create alternative sustainable models of production, finance and consumption to respond to social, economic and environmental issues, while generating value for their community and stakeholders, including the social and solidarity economy, which can play a role in fostering patterns of development, and also recognizes the need to implement policies and programmes aimed at supporting these entrepreneurs, and encourages Governments to set up an environment conducive to social and environmental innovation;

26. *Also recognizes* that harnessing entrepreneurial talents among all young people is vital for increasing productive capacities, developing new forms of entrepreneurship focused on information and communications technology, big data, digitization, smart cities and creating start-ups, and generating full and productive employment and decent work and inclusive economic growth, and encourages Member States to integrate youth entrepreneurship strategies and innovative programmes into their national policies, create a nurturing environment for the full realization of the rights and capabilities of all young people, and increase investment in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through impact investment favouring the poorest and most vulnerable, entrepreneurial education, youth capacity-building and information and communications technology;

27. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis and without discrimination on the basis of gender and disability, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development, including technical, vocational and entrepreneurial training throughout the life cycle, in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence, notes that further efforts are needed to increase awareness of the ability of persons with disabilities to innovate and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through entrepreneurship, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to establish research

on policy support for entrepreneurs with disabilities and collect data in order to develop or improve programmes, taking into account their capabilities, skills, socioeconomic status and other personal characteristics;

28. *Stresses* the need to highlight the value of entrepreneurship and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda, including the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by promoting policies, initiatives and programmes that support the development of an enabling entrepreneurial ecosystem, including by raising public awareness, reinforcing local support networks and employing specific measures aimed at removing negative preconceptions and negative cultural biases;

29. *Also stresses* the need to enhance the alignment of policies, strategies and initiatives for entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, with the post-COVID-19 recovery priorities and the 2030 Agenda, and emphasizes that these should prioritize those in vulnerable situations, who have the greatest needs, necessity entrepreneurs, including women and young entrepreneurs, and incentivize the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, adaptation to flexible work environments, including remote work, digitalization, innovation to access alternative markets and novel financing mechanisms, and the collection of high-quality, reliable and comparable data, while ensuring an optimal regulatory environment for entrepreneurs to start and scale up their businesses;

30. *Underlines* that sustainable entrepreneurship contributes to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 12, and invites Member States, relevant organizations and networks to cooperate in sharing and discussing best practices regarding relevant product information along value chains, including in the context of the circular economy, as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production, in line with domestic and international law;

31. *Recognizes* the potential of entrepreneurship in promoting the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, including through capacity-building and support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, environmentally sustainable desalination technologies, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies;

32. *Also recognizes* the contribution urbanization makes to the acceleration of digitalization, the adoption of new technologies, innovation and information-sharing within cities, thereby encouraging entrepreneurship and job creation, and the contribution micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises make to solve societal problems in cities, and encourages Member States to adopt a multi-stakeholder approach towards urban collaborative economy planning for the delivery of the 2030 Agenda;

33. *Acknowledges* the importance of adopting innovative and sustainable agriculture and food systems that will contribute to the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, and help eradicate hunger and malnutrition and poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by harnessing entrepreneurship and innovation in the field of sustainable agriculture, food technology and agrifood technology;

34. *Highlights* the importance of calibrating and differentiating between various types of entrepreneurs, in particular necessity and opportunity entrepreneurs, in line with their relative importance in the economy, in the design and implementation of policies and strategies, initiatives and support programmes, including for responding to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including by employing specific measures targeting the vulnerable and most affected entrepreneurs, mobilizing resources, reinforcing local support networks and prioritizing initiatives and programmes aimed at increasing productivity, access to support measures and formalization;

35. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to implement the present resolution as a means to deliver the comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, in which the dignity of the human person is fundamental, the Goals and targets are met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, no one is left behind and we endeavour to reach the furthest behind first;

36. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen and foster investment in research and development and innovation centres, with an emphasis on multilateralism and international collaborations in creating innovative solutions to global challenges, to strengthen their business environment, while encouraging the participation of underrepresented communities, and to promote the involvement of academia and the business and financial sectors in the development of an enabling and inclusive business environment, and invites the international community to support those efforts including through South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives;

37. *Stresses* the importance of indicators that can be used to formulate targeted entrepreneurship policies and measure their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard encourages Member States, in

cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to further identify and develop indicators at the national and regional levels, as appropriate;

38. *Recognizes* that democratic political institutions, transparent and accountable public and private entities, effective anti-corruption measures and responsible corporate governance are key conditions for making market economies and enterprises more responsive to the values and long-term goals of society;

39. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to further recognize and integrate entrepreneurship in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, as appropriate, and invites the United Nations system, and in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue to provide support to and assist Member States, at their request, to identify, formulate, implement and assess coherent policy measures on entrepreneurship and the promotion of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

40. *Decides* to continue to consider, as appropriate, the contribution of entrepreneurship to sustainable development in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including COVID-19-related aspects, effects and responses, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled "Sustainable development", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 77/161

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.1, para. 13)[127]

77/161. Promoting zero-waste initiatives to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 75/224 of 21 December 2020, entitled "Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)", 76/202 of 17 December 2021, entitled "Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21", 76/205 of 17 December 2021, entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind", 76/207 of 17 December 2021, entitled "Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development", and 76/208 of 17 December 2021, entitled "Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme",

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[128] in particular those paragraphs relevant to the sustainable management of waste and those on sustainable consumption and production,

Reaffirming 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,

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[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zambia.

[128] Resolution 66/288, annex.

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 its commitment to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[129] the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement,[130] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[131] the Convention on Biological Diversity,[132] the New Urban Agenda[133] and other major internationally agreed United Nations outcome documents in the economic, social and environmental fields, which are fully complementary and mutually reinforcing with the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming further the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and its vision for cities and human settlements that protect, conserve, restore and promote their ecosystems, water, natural habitats and biodiversity, minimize their environmental impact and change to sustainable consumption and production patterns,

Recognizing the importance of the recent major conferences and their outcomes, including the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the first part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly and the special session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme, the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa and the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, recognizing also the importance of the international meeting entitled "Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity", the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to assess the progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, the first part of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, as well as the extension by the Assembly, in its resolution 76/202 of 17 December 2021, of the mandate of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns to 2030, and welcoming the approval of the new Global Strategy on Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023–2030 by the Board of the 10-Year Framework, on 19 October 2022,

Reaffirming the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, given its role within the United Nations system as focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities,

Reaffirming also the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment,

Aware that the use of chemicals and the amount of waste generated will grow substantially in the coming years, and expressing great concern with regard to the unsound management of chemicals and waste and its negative impacts on human health and the environment,

Recognizing that women often take the lead in promoting environmental protection and conservation, reducing resource use and reusing and recycling resources to minimize waste and excessive consumption, and that women can have a particularly powerful role in influencing sustainable consumption decisions,

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[129] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[130] Adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[131] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[132] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[133] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Stressing the urgency of taking immediate actions towards the long-term elimination of plastic pollution in marine environments, including through promoting national action plans to work towards the prevention, reduction and elimination of marine litter and plastic pollution from all sources, and promoting sustainable consumption and production approaches, including resources efficiency and life-cycle approaches, in which products and materials are designed in such a way that they can be reused, remanufactured or recycled and therefore retained in the economy for as long as possible, along with the resources of which they are made, and the generation of waste is avoided or minimized,

Welcoming the decision by the United Nations Environment Assembly, in its resolution 5/14 of 2 March 2022, entitled "End plastic pollution: towards an internationally legally binding instrument",[134] to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment,

Welcoming also United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 5/7, entitled "Sound management of chemicals and waste",[135] 5/8, entitled "Science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution",[136] and 5/11, entitled "Enhancing circular economy as contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production",[137] adopted on 2 March 2022,

Recognizing the need to promote sustainable and environmentally sound management of waste as part of contributing to progress towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal[138] and towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 12, taking into account national circumstances,

Reiterating calls for Member States, especially developed countries that are in a position to do so, international organizations and international financial institutions to provide developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in particular those experiencing conflict, with financial assistance, capacity-building support, and technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, for the environmentally sound management of waste,

Noting with concern the findings in the contribution of Working Group III to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change sixth assessment report, including that the waste sector remains a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in urban settings,

Recognizing the important role of cities and rural areas in sustainable and the environmentally sound management of waste, including by the application of local and national zero-waste initiatives, which can contribute to reducing pollution, including plastic pollution in marine and other environments, climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity and the services provided by ecosystems, the protection of the marine environment, enhancing food security and improving human health,

Acknowledging the success stories of Member States in developing and implementing innovative solid waste management solutions and technologies and engaging local communities, including innovative projects and programmes such as local and national zero-waste initiatives to foster the environmentally sound management of waste, in particular the minimization and, where feasible, prevention of waste,

Recognizing that local and national zero-waste initiatives can contribute to achieving sustainable consumption and production, in line, inter alia, with resolution 5/11 adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to set up an advisory board of eminent persons, based on voluntary contributions, selected on the basis of their knowledge, experience and expertise and with due regard to gender balance and equitable geographic representation, in consultation with Member States, for a period of three years, to promote local and national zero-waste initiatives through, inter alia, the dissemination of best practices and success stories,

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[134] UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

[135] UNEP/EA.5/Res.7.

[136] UNEP/EA.5/Res.8.

[137] UNEP/EA.5/Res.11.

[138] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1673, No. 28911.

based on the work of, and without duplication with, relevant existing regional and global platforms, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), within their respective mandates;

2. *Recommends* the continuation of the discussion on zero-waste initiatives within the relevant United Nations entities, on the basis of verified data on sustainable and environmentally sound waste management, among other considerations, within their work on sustainable consumption and production;

3. *Encourages* Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations to implement zero-waste initiatives at all levels, so as to promote environmentally sound management of waste and sustainable development;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite the United Nations Environment Programme to include, within existing resources, in the next iteration of the *Global Waste Management Outlook*, a dedicated section on zero-waste initiatives, including on activities and experiences of such initiatives;

5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, through voluntary contributions and without duplication of effort, including activities organized by the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, to convene a one-day high-level meeting, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme and UN-Habitat, in New York, in 2023, during the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, including innovative projects and programmes such as local and national zero-waste initiatives to foster the environmentally sound management of waste in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[139] the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the New Urban Agenda and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal;

6. *Decides* to proclaim 30 March as International Day of Zero Waste, to be observed annually;

7. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector and academia, to observe the International Day of Zero Waste, in an appropriate manner, through activities aimed at raising awareness of national, subnational, regional and local zero-waste initiatives and their contribution to achieving sustainable development;

8. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme and UN-Habitat, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980, to facilitate the observance of the International Day of Zero Waste;

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

10. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to contribute to and support the implementation of the International Day;

11. *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;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform Member States about the implementation of the present resolution, through the report to be submitted to the General Assembly at its eightieth session under the sub-item entitled "Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21" of the item entitled "Sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 77/162

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.1, para. 13)[140]

[139] Resolution 70/1.

[140] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

77/162. Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[141] Agenda 21,[142] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[143] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[144] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[145] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[146] as well as all relevant resolutions on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming 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,

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the resulting processes for the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and for the realization of sustainable development, and recognizing also the uneven progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and all other internationally agreed development goals and commitments necessary to achieve sustainable development,

Reaffirming the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions, and reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,

Recalling the convening of the 2022 high-level political forum on sustainable development, from 5 to 15 July, and the adoption of its ministerial declaration,[147]

Recognizing that digital technologies and the unprecedented scale, spread and speed of change brought about by them can be harnessed to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Stressing the need, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, to benefit from and build on experiences, success stories, best practices, challenges and the lessons learned from the previous agreements on sustainable development,

Stressing also the importance of overcoming silos and seeking innovative and coordinated approaches in integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard taking note of the actions and initiatives implemented by the United Nations system entities,

Stressing further the need to determine gaps, obstacles, synergies and challenges in the implementation of commitments and instruments in the sustainable development field, in a coherent and integrated manner, and with a

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[141] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[142] Ibid., annex II.

[143] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[144] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[145] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[146] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[147] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/77/3), chap. VI, sect. D.

view to pursuing and achieving policy coherence as well as identifying new opportunities and emerging challenges for international cooperation on the path towards sustainable development,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[148] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[149] the New Urban Agenda,[150] the Convention on Biological Diversity[151] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[152] as well as major outcome documents in relation to countries in special situations,

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,

Noting with concern that the compounded effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, conflict and economic shocks, and climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, have exacerbated existing challenges in the international community's efforts, especially for developing countries, to implement sustainable consumption and production, and may further reverse progress towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, including Sustainable Development Goal 12, and therefore stressing the importance of promoting sustainable consumption and production in the context of sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies,

Noting with concern also the latest warnings by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including on the vulnerability of ecosystems to climate change being strongly influenced by human society, including from unsustainable consumption and production, and further recognizing that the reduction of unsustainable consumption and production, including waste generation, will support progress in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 12, while stressing the importance of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions and of reducing inequality, recognizing that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21";[153]

2. *Recognizes* that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development constituted a milestone that ushered in major international instruments and commitments that guide progress in closing development gaps within and among developed and developing countries, and reaffirms all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[154] as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012, entitled "The future we want";

3. *Urges* the full and effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and all other internationally agreed development goals and commitments in the economic, social and environmental fields,

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[148] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[149] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[150] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[151] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[152] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[153] A/77/210.

[154] Resolution 70/1.

including the Millennium Development Goals and those under the three Rio conventions, building on their contributions, best practices, challenges and lessons learned, in order to support the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

4. *Recognizes* that the 2030 Agenda builds on issues included in Agenda 21, and encourages further efforts aimed at strengthening international cooperation to address gaps in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

5. *Acknowledges*, in this regard, that sustainable consumption and production practices can be cost-efficient and effective ways to achieve economic development, reduce environmental impacts and advance human well-being, and urges the need to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 12, in order to contribute to the achievement of all Goals;

6. *Recognizes* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development adopted, among other commitments on sustainable consumption and production, the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns,[155] and that both the Framework and its multi-partner trust fund are tools for action on sustainable consumption and production, recalls the launch of the "One Plan for One Planet" strategy 2018–2022, and in this regard reiterates the need for such initiatives to continue to share best practices and provide other forms of technical assistance in the shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns, including by providing tools and solutions for policy design and implementation;

7. *Welcomes* the decision of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns to approve the Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023–2030,[156] following a consultative process involving Member States and stakeholders, and calls upon Member States, United Nations entities and stakeholders to support its implementation and resource mobilization as part of the international efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives of the multilateral environmental agreements;

8. *Recognizes* that unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are key drivers of natural resource depletion, climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, malnutrition and land degradation, and therefore recommits to making fundamental changes in the way that societies produce and consume goods and services through the transition to sustainable economic and business models that promote sustainable consumption and production patterns as well as through policies, frameworks, partnerships, technological innovation and instruments that improve resource efficiency and the sustainable management of natural resources, reduce waste, encourage approaches such as the circular economy, life cycle and other approaches, as appropriate and taking into account national circumstances and capacities, enable consumers to make sustainable consumption choices, mainstream sustainability practices, encourage sustainable and environmentally sound bio-based products and increase resilience across all sectors of the economy, which will contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 12, and in this regard welcomes the extension by the General Assembly, in its resolution 76/202 of 17 December 2021, of the mandate of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns until 31 December 2030, and encourages the implementation of the Framework of Programmes, in accordance with target 12.1 of Goal 12;

9. *Also recognizes* the important role of the private sector in promoting and utilizing sustainable practices, including for multinational corporations and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises which may face greater challenges in enhancing resource efficiency;

10. *Acknowledges* the link between plastic waste and pollution and sustainable consumption and production patterns, and calls upon all Member States to continue to step up activities across the life cycle of plastic to prevent, reduce and eliminate plastic pollution, including through innovative approaches that foster environmentally sound management, including the reduction, reuse and recycling of plastic waste;

11. *Welcomes* the decision by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session, in resolution 5/14 of 2 March 2022,[157] to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, which could

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[155] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

[156] See A/77/607.

[157] UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

include both binding and voluntary approaches, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic, taking into account, among other things, the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as well as national circumstances and capabilities, and underscores the importance of securing an ambitious international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, while acknowledging that some legal obligations arising out of a new instrument will require capacity-building and technical and financial assistance in order to be effectively implemented by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and also welcomes the commitment made by ministers during the 2022 high-level political forum on sustainable development to actively follow up on the decision by engaging in the intergovernmental negotiating committee, with the ambition of completing its work by the end of 2024;

12. *Urges* the international community to continue to support developing countries in strengthening their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, and calls for enhanced support to developing countries by providing means of implementation;

13. *Encourages* the further strengthening of the science-policy interface and of the means of implementation from all sources and at all levels, including a revitalized and enhanced Global Partnership, as well as by supporting innovative approaches to sustainability science and emphasizing cross-disciplinary partnerships;

14. *Requests* the United Nations system to further mainstream and integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout its work, and to continue to exchange experiences and lessons learned in this regard and to step up its efforts at all levels in continued support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

15. *Encourages* regional and subregional organizations to continue to promote sustainable development in their respective regions by, inter alia, promoting peer learning and cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as effective linkages among global, regional, subregional and national processes, as appropriate, to advance sustainable development;

16. *Strongly encourages* further accelerated actions and multi-stakeholder partnerships at all levels, including with the United Nations system and international financial system, to advance innovative pathways to achieving sustainable consumption and production, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/11 of 2 March 2022, entitled "Enhancing circular economy as contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production",[158] as part of accelerated progress towards the 2030 Agenda, thereby creating job opportunities, promoting sustainable business practices and fostering more sustainable and stable global supply chains, and ensuring that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness about sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature;

17. *Stresses* the urgency of promoting sustainable consumption and production approaches, in which products and materials are designed in such a way that they can be reused, remanufactured or recycled and therefore retained in the economy for as long as possible, along with the resources of which they are made, the generation of waste is avoided or minimized and greenhouse gas emissions are prevented or reduced;

18. *Encourages* all countries to participate in the 2023 high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the General Assembly (Sustainable Development Goals Summit) at the highest possible level, reiterates the need to use the Summit to provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for sustainable development and follow up and review progress in the implementation of sustainable development commitments and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, including through national and regional consultations, invites the Secretary-General to mobilize Governments, the United Nations system and stakeholders in preparing for the Summit so that it marks the beginning of a new phase of accelerated progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, and looks forward to the *Global Sustainable Development Report* as an important input in this regard;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, with a particular focus on the state of play with regard to sustainable consumption and production and the application and promotion thereof, taking into account the impacts of, response to and recovery from COVID-19, and to recommend concrete actions to implement the 2030 Agenda in this regard;

[158] UNEP/EA.5/Res.11.

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21".

RESOLUTION 77/163

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.2, para. 14)[159]

77/163. Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[160] the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados,[161] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[162] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[163] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[164] the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[165] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[166] the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[167] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[168] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[169] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Recalling the Paris Agreement,[170] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[171] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling also the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[172]

Recalling further the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[173]

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[159] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[160] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992,* vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[161] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[162] Ibid., annex II.

[163] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[164] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[165] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[166] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[167] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[168] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[169] Resolution 70/1.

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

[171] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[172] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[173] Resolution S-22/2, annex.

Recognizing the efforts of Caribbean States to develop and implement strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources, in this regard reiterating the calls made in the declarations entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action"[174] and "Our ocean, our future, our responsibility",[175] calling for further enhanced actions to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, with a particular focus on targets 14.2, 14.4, 14.5 and 14.6 that matured in 2020, and renewing the commitment to take urgent action and to cooperating at the global, regional and subregional levels to achieve all the targets as soon as possible, without delay,

Taking into account all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004, 61/197 of 20 December 2006, 63/214 of 19 December 2008, 65/155 of 20 December 2010, 67/205 of 21 December 2012, 69/216 of 19 December 2014, 71/224 of 21 December 2016, 73/229 of 20 December 2018 and 75/214 of 21 December 2020,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[176]

Recalling also the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983,[177] and the protocols thereto, which contain the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[178] which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity[179] and other biodiversity-related conventions, including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora[180] and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,[181]

Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[182]

Recalling the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile and socially and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems, and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystems,

Recognizing also that the Caribbean Sea is a critical asset, which inter alia provides a range of ecosystem services and socioeconomic benefits in the form of food security and nutrition, employment, foreign exchange, culture and recreation,

Recognizing further that the Caribbean has been shown to be the most tourism-dependent region in the world relative to its size,

Deeply concerned that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and its severe global economic disruptions are having a devastating impact on the sustainable development and humanitarian needs of Caribbean

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[174] Resolution 71/312, annex.

[175] Resolution 76/296, annex.

[176] Resolution 60/1.

[177] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[178] Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

[179] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[180] Ibid., vol. 993, No. 14537.

[181] Ibid., vol. 996, No. 14583.

[182] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

countries that are dependent on tourism, commodities, stable global supply chains and remittances, making the prospect of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development more difficult,

Noting that the Caribbean Sea, when compared with all other large marine ecosystems, is surrounded by the largest number of countries in the world,

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change, climate variability and associated phenomena, such as the rising sea level, oceanic oscillation phenomena, such as the El Niño phenomenon, and the potential increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes, which increase their sustainable development challenges,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, including in launching the debt swap initiative and the Caribbean Resilience Fund, to support Caribbean economies to mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change, and noting also the particular efforts to address and reduce debt burdens, including through the Caribbean Resilience Fund,

Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of resources,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage, as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

Noting with concern the impact of plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, on the Caribbean Sea area, encouraging further efforts at all levels to prevent, reduce and eliminate plastic pollution, and welcoming the decision by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment,[183]

Recalling the call upon all stakeholders to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development by, inter alia, accelerating actions to prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris, plastics and microplastics, nutrient pollution, untreated wastewater, solid waste discharges, hazardous substances, pollution from ships and abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, while at the same time recognizing that small island developing States are among the most vulnerable to the impacts of marine pollution,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on the safe transport of radioactive materials,

Welcoming the decision taken by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session to strengthen global action on the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 5/7[184] and 5/8[185] of 2 March 2022,

Mindful of the diversity of and dynamic interaction and competition among socioeconomic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources, and noting with deep concern the findings about cumulative human impacts on the ocean, including ecosystem degradation and species extinctions, as highlighted in the second *World Ocean Assessment* and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*,

Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the wider Caribbean Sea region and, in so doing, to promote the integrated management

[183] UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

[184] UNEP/EA.5/Res.7.

[185] UNEP/EA.5/Res.8.

of the wider Caribbean Sea region in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

Noting the progress that has been made on regional ocean governance by the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Project, and the opportunity to further advance marine spatial planning through the commencement of the global PROCARIBE+ project,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the States members and associate members of the Association of Caribbean States to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, and recognizing in this regard the firm commitment by Heads of State and Government of the Association to take the steps necessary to ensure the recognition of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, without prejudice to relevant international law,

Recalling the creation by the Association of Caribbean States of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and welcoming its ongoing work, including its plan of action for the period 2022–2028, and its contribution to the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area and of the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Recognizes* that the Caribbean Sea is an area of unique biodiversity and a highly fragile ecosystem that requires relevant regional and international development partners to work together to develop and implement regional initiatives to promote the sustainable conservation and management of coastal and marine resources, including the consideration of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such without prejudice to international law;

2. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, and emphasizes the need for regional and international action to enhance efforts at the national and subnational levels, as appropriate, to build resilience;

3. *Stresses* that the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need to support and invest in adaptation and action at all levels to build resilience through, inter alia, disaster risk reduction, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, the sustainable management of ecosystems and the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity, and in this regard urges Member States to adopt a climate- and environment-responsive approach to COVID-19 recovery efforts;

4. *Notes* the efforts of the Caribbean States and the work undertaken by the Caribbean Sea Commission of the Association of Caribbean States, including the development of their concept of the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, and invites the international community to support such efforts;

5. *Reaffirms its support* for the plan of action adopted by the Caribbean Sea Commission, including its scientific and technical components and its governance and outreach components, and invites the international community and the United Nations system to enhance their support, including financial, technical and capacity-building assistance, as appropriate, to Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to implement the plan of action;

6. *Welcomes* the resources provided by some donors to support the work of the Caribbean Sea Commission, and invites the international community to continue and to enhance its support, as appropriate, to the Commission, including through the provision of financial resources, capacity-building and technical support, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the sharing of experience in the areas of work of the Commission;

7. *Also welcomes* the convening of the sixth International Cooperation Conference of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Havana on 10 and 11 November 2022, which aims to boost cooperation and attract funding to address new strategies and the implementation of projects and initiatives in support of the sustainable development of the Greater Caribbean;

8. *Acknowledges* the need to scale up the efforts of the Caribbean Sea Commission for the delivery of its programme of work, in particular in promoting the designation of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, alongside plans to advance new initiatives at the sixth International Cooperation

Conference of the Association of Caribbean States, and invites the international community to support these next steps;

9. *Looks forward* to the convening of the ninth summit of the Association of Caribbean States, to be held in La Antigua Guatemala in May 2023, and the adoption of its plan of action for the period 2022–2028, which focuses on strategizing to reposition the Greater Caribbean for enhanced resilience;

10. *Recognizes* the efforts of Caribbean countries to create conditions leading to sustainable development aimed at combating poverty and inequality, and in this regard notes with interest the initiatives of the Association of Caribbean States in the focal areas of sustainable tourism, trade, transport and natural disasters;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist Caribbean countries and their regional organizations, as appropriate, in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and pollution from the illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

12. *Invites* the Association of Caribbean States to submit to the Secretary-General a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, for consideration by the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session;

13. *Calls upon* all States to become parties to the relevant international agreements to enhance maritime safety and to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution, damage and degradation from ships and ship-generated waste;

14. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the Special Area designation for the wider Caribbean region under annex V to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto,[186] which entered into force in May 2011;

15. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes and to meet the principles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

16. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity, to develop national, regional and international programmes to halt the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangroves;

17. *Invites* the international community to actively support efforts of Caribbean countries to implement regional strategies and action plans on marine pollution and marine biodiversity to further promote the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 14, to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;

18. *Notes with deep concern* that invasive alien species, such as *Pterois miles* and *P. volitans*, known as lionfish, constitute an acute threat to biodiversity in the wider Caribbean region, and urges the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide assistance and support in addressing this issue in the region;

19. *Also notes with deep concern* the sargassum seaweed influx and its negative impact on the people, the territory and the economy of the Caribbean, as well as the deterioration of the coral reefs;

20. *Encourages* continued collaboration and resource mobilization by the international community and all other sources, including public and private, bilateral and multilateral, to support capacity-building mechanisms and strengthen sargassum seaweed management for the Caribbean;

21. *Invites* Member States and intergovernmental organizations of the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols concerning the management, protection and sustainable utilization of Caribbean Sea resources and in implementing those conventions and protocols effectively;

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[186] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1340, No. 22484.

22. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to actively support the national and regional activities of the Caribbean States for the promotion of the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources;

23. *Expresses deep concern* about the severe destruction and devastation caused to several countries by heightened hurricane activity in the wider Caribbean region in recent years, in particular the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season;

24. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing activities of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and invites Member States and other partners to support early warning systems in the region;

25. *Urges* the United Nations system and the international community to continue to provide aid and assistance to the countries of the Caribbean region in the implementation of their long-term programmes of disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation, management, relief and recovery, on the basis of their development priorities, through the integration of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction into a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

26. *Acknowledges* the pivotal role of the Association of Caribbean States in regional dialogue and in the consolidation of a wider Caribbean cooperation zone in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the importance of the international community in deepening existing cooperation and consolidating new initiatives with that regional mechanism in the context of the outcomes of the High-level Conference on Disaster Reduction of the Association of Caribbean States, held in Saint-Marc, Haiti, from 14 to 16 November 2007, and the plan of action approved by the Ministerial Council of the Association upon the recommendation of the Conference;

27. *Invites* Member States, international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to consider training programmes for the development of human resources capacity at different levels and to develop research aimed at enhancing the food security of Caribbean countries, as well as the sustainable management of renewable marine and coastal resources;

28. *Calls upon* Member States to improve, as a matter of priority, their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

29. *Encourages* the international community and the United Nations system, in line with their programming priorities, to support initiatives aimed at addressing mitigation of and adaptation to climate change in the wider Caribbean region included in the plan of action of the Association of Caribbean States for the period 2022–2028;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, emphasizing the three dimensions of sustainable development, including a section on the possible legal and financial implications of the concept of the Caribbean Sea as a special area in the context of sustainable development, including its designation as such, without prejudice to relevant international law, taking into account the views expressed by Member States and relevant regional organizations, unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 77/164

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.3, para. 8)[187]

[187] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

77/164. Disaster risk reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/204 of 17 December 2021 and all previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also its resolution 73/230 of 20 December 2018 on the effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon and all previous relevant resolutions, and recalling further the decision on this subject matter taken in decision 74/537 B of 11 August 2020,

Recalling further the Sendai Declaration[188] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[189]

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[190] Agenda 21,[191] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[192] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[193] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[194] and reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[195] in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[196] and recognizing the linkages between disaster risk reduction and sustainable urban development,

Recognizing the need for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk, reflecting the 2030 Agenda, and that disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective,

Reiterating the call in the Sendai Framework for the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries,

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[188] Resolution 69/283, annex I.

[189] Ibid., annex II.

[190] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[191] Ibid., annex II.

[192] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[193] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[194] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[195] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[196] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recalling that the Sendai Framework applies to risks of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden- and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or human-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of disasters and their devastating impact this year and in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life, food insecurity, water-related challenges, displacement, humanitarian needs and long-term negative economic, social and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, and which hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular that of developing countries,

Recognizing that disaster risk is increasingly complex and systemic and that hazards can trigger each other with cascading impacts across sectors and geographies, as well as at the local, national, regional and global levels, and that the interrelation of risks across multiple dimensions and scales and potential unintended negative consequences should inform development policies and investments, emphasizing that these policies should be oriented towards building resilience and achieving sustainability and the Sustainable Development Goals, and recalling in this regard the findings contained in the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals,[197] the *Global Sustainable Development Report* and the 2022 *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, and stressing the importance of an integrated understanding of disaster risk in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement[198] and the Sendai Framework,

Recognizing also the importance of promoting policies and planning that build resilience and reduce displacement risk in the context of disasters, including through international, regional, subregional, transboundary and bilateral cooperation,

Noting that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind, recalling that the peak of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon was comparable in strength to the 1982/83 and 1997/98 events and, therefore, one of the strongest on record, and affected more than 60 million people during 2015 and 2016, in particular in developing countries, with significant short- and long-term impacts on the health of individuals, the economy and food production locally, regionally and globally, particularly affecting people whose livelihood depends on agriculture, fisheries and livestock activities, and noting the impacts of the protracted La Niña phase of the El Niño Southern Oscillation in recent years on heat and drought, wildfires, heavy rainfall and flooding, with implications for livelihoods and food security, and loss of biodiversity, which have combined with the impacts of climate change,

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation, in the face of natural and human-made hazards, including weather-related hazards, those driven by natural climate cycles such as the El Niño Southern Oscillation, and the adverse effects of climate change, to estimate and prevent major damage and ensure an adequate response, early action and attention to the affected populations in a timely manner in order to enhance resilience to their impacts, and recognizing in this regard the importance of developing risk-informed strategies, risk finance tools, including forecast-based financing approaches and disaster risk insurance mechanisms and coordinated multi-hazard early warning systems, including timely risk communication at the local, national and regional levels,

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 that it is urgent and critical to anticipate, plan for and reduce disaster risk, expressing deep concern at the devastating impacts of COVID-19 and climate change on sustainable development, which have deepened

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[197] E/2022/55.

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

vulnerabilities to disasters and exposure to hazards and have highlighted the urgency of implementing the Sendai Framework as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, and noting in this regard that recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic will provide opportunities for and should be accompanied by policies and focused action to understand disaster risk, strengthen disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhance disaster preparedness for effective response and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction through a resilient, sustainable and inclusive recovery, as well as to address the underlying drivers of disaster risk and build resilience across systems, integrate systemic risk management and strengthen multisectoral and multi-hazard approaches to disaster risk reduction and disaster risk finance arrangements and support sustainable and inclusive recovery, addressing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk,

Recalling the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

Recalling the convening of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly (Sustainable Development Goals Summit) on 24 and 25 September 2019 and the commitment to reducing disaster risk and building resilience contained in the adopted political declaration,[199] and looking forward to the next Sustainable Development Goals Summit, in September 2023,

Recognizing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk and that the adverse effects of climate change, as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility, and in this regard acknowledging the internationally agreed outcomes adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[200] and the Paris Agreement,[201]

Recognizing also that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development,

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

Recalling the holding of the Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General on 23 September 2019, recalling also the multi-partner initiatives and commitments presented during the Summit, recalling further the Youth Climate Summit, held on 21 September 2019, and taking note of the international Climate Adaptation Summit held virtually on 25 and 26 January 2021, hosted by the Netherlands,

Noting the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022, and looking forward to the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, to be held from 22 to 24 March 2023, noting that it can be a contribution to the midterm review of the Sendai Framework,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the Sendai Framework, the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement,

Noting with concern the findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, *Global Warming of 1.5°C*, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, the findings contained in the special report of the Panel on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems, entitled *Climate Change and Land*, the findings contained in the special report of the Panel entitled *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*, and the findings contained in the contribution of Working Groups I, II, and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

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[199] Resolution 74/4, annex.

[200] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

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

Stressing the urgent need to address the unprecedented global decline in biodiversity, recalling with concern the findings of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, in this regard recalling the summit on biodiversity held on 30 September 2020 and the first part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, hosted by China from 11 to 15 October 2021, and looking forward to the second part, to be held in Canada from 7 to 19 December 2022, which will adopt a post-2020 global biodiversity framework,

Recognizing that disaster-prone developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, warrant particular attention in view of their higher vulnerability and risk levels, including access to climate and disaster risk finance, which often greatly exceed their capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters, and recognizing also that similar attention and appropriate assistance should also be extended to other disaster-prone countries with specific characteristics, such as archipelagic countries, as well as countries with extensive coastlines,

Recalling the adoption of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries[202] on 17 March 2022, recognizing that, guided by the principles of resilience-building and risk reduction, implementation of the Programme of Action can support the integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and social protection strategies and international support to the least developed countries, and looking forward to the second part of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Qatar from 5 to 9 March 2023, to raise ambition and accelerate action to reduce disaster risk in the least developed countries,

Looking forward to the convening of the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States and the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries to raise ambition and accelerate action to reduce disaster risk in small island developing States and landlocked developing countries,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 76/204;[203]

2. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;

3. *Reiterates its call for* the prevention of new and the reduction of existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political, financial and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and thus strengthen resilience;

4. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of disasters caused by human-made or natural hazards, many of which are exacerbated by climate change, in this regard stresses the urgent need to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events, and urges Member States to continue to engage in adaptation planning processes and to enhance cooperation in disaster risk reduction;

5. *Recalls* the launch of the Coalition for Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure and the Risk-Informed Early Action Partnership and the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative;

6. *Recognizes* that in some cases the use of public debt and renewed external borrowing to absorb the impact of a disaster could lead to higher debt servicing for developing countries and constrain their growth and their capacity to invest in long-term resilience-building, and acknowledges that, with each new disaster, financial vulnerabilities may grow and domestic response capacities may weaken;

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[202] Resolution 76/258, annex.

[203] A/77/293.

7. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to work towards the achievement of the global targets adopted in the Sendai Framework;

8. *Recognizes* progress made in achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework and that the development and implementation of risk-informed strategic plans, policies, programmes and investments and national and local disaster risk reduction strategies are essential for sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

9. *Reaffirms* the importance of developing multi-hazard strategies at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels, in line with the Sendai Framework, that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the El Niño Southern Oscillation phenomenon, while recognizing ongoing national initiatives by affected countries to strengthen their capacities;

10. *Stresses* that, during neutral El Niño Southern Oscillation phenomenon years, it is critical to prepare for, build resilience to and reduce the risks of the next event, including through integrated plans, and calls upon the international community to provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries affected by the El Niño Southern Oscillation phenomenon, prioritizing resources to developing countries;

11. *Urges* the international community to accelerate progress and allocate the resources necessary to support the development and implementation of inclusive and participatory, multi-hazard national and local disaster risk reduction strategies with a broadened scope beyond preparedness and response to include a focus on risk reduction and prevention, in line with the Sendai Framework, with a particular focus on local strategies and programmes, to promote coherence and integration with sustainable development and climate change adaptation strategies including national adaptation plans, as well as sector-specific plans, to include the objective of preparing to build back better through sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery in disaster risk reduction strategies and, where appropriate, to incorporate considerations regarding the risk of disaster displacement, in accordance with national circumstances, making use of practical guidance to support the achievement of target (e), and recalls in this regard the relevant voluntary "Words into action" guidelines;

12. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen national and local disaster risk governance by implementing the whole-of-government and all-of-society approaches through establishing or strengthening national platforms for disaster risk reduction, or similar mechanisms, for multisectoral and inter-institutional coordination, with clearly defined roles and responsibilities for disaster risk reduction across ministries and institutions and at the national, subnational and local levels, and by expanding disaster risk reduction beyond national disaster management and civil protection authorities, or equivalent agencies, to include all branches of government and all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, and welcomes the "Making Cities Resilient 2030" initiative in support of local capacities for disaster risk governance;

13. *Expresses concern* that countries affected by protracted humanitarian crises and emergencies are among those most vulnerable to the impacts of disasters and are furthest behind in implementing the Sendai Framework, and recognizes that implementation of the Sendai Framework can address drivers of vulnerability and exposure to build resilience and reduce humanitarian impacts and needs, and in this regard recognizes the need for multidimensional and comprehensive risk assessment and the promotion of coherence between humanitarian and development assistance, which can contribute to strengthening resilience and climate change adaptation, for a more targeted and effective approach to prevention and resilience-building;

14. *Reaffirms* its decision to hold a midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework in 2023 to assess progress on integrating disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes and investments at all levels, identify good practices, gaps and challenges and accelerate the path to achieving the goal of the Sendai Framework and its seven global targets by 2030, also reaffirms its decision to hold a high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review in New York on 18 and 19 May 2023 at the highest possible level, which shall consist of an opening segment, a plenary segment, interactive multi-stakeholder panels and a closing segment, and its decision that the high-level meeting shall adopt a concise and action-oriented political declaration to renew commitment and accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework, agreed in advance by consensus through intergovernmental negotiations led by two co-facilitators to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly, one from a developed country and one from a developing country, and to be submitted by the President of the Assembly for adoption by the Assembly, requests the President of the Assembly, in consultation with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, to finalize the preparatory process and organizational arrangements for the meeting, with any additional costs to be met through voluntary contributions, and invites States to assess progress, gaps and challenges in the

implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local, national, regional and global levels and to share findings, good practices and recommendations with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be included in a report on the midterm review, which will also take into consideration the stocktaking, thematic reviews and outcomes of the global and regional platforms for disaster risk reduction that will inform the midterm review process;

15. *Recognizes* the importance of monitoring the Sendai Framework, encourages States to use the online monitor to report on progress against the Sendai Framework global targets by referring to the report of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction,[204] also encourages States, while implementing the Sendai Framework, to systematically evaluate, record, share and publicly account for disaster losses and understand the economic, social, health, educational, environmental and cultural heritage impacts, as appropriate, in the context of event-specific hazard-exposure and vulnerability information, and enhance the development and dissemination of science-based methodologies and tools to record and share disaster losses and relevant disaggregated data and statistics, as well as to strengthen disaster risk modelling, assessment, mapping, monitoring and multi-hazard early warning systems, and in this regard further encourages efforts to create or enhance systems for data collection and to support the capacity of national statistical offices to integrate data from the Sendai Framework monitor into official national statistics to enhance and institutionalize its use in decision-making processes and investments across sectors and all relevant ministries and institutions, and to prioritize the collection and analysis of data on disaster loss and the establishment and strengthening of national disaster loss databases, and to develop baselines on current losses, working towards the collection of information on historical disaster losses going back, at least, to 2005, if feasible;

16. *Urges* States to conduct inclusive and multi-hazard disaster risk assessments that consider climate change projections to support evidence-based disaster risk reduction strategies and guide risk-informed development investments by the private and public sectors, including comprehensive disaster risk reduction financing strategies, to support early action and recovery;

17. *Encourages* States to strengthen inter-institutional, inclusive coordination on disaster risk data and integrated analysis, investment in and the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries for the development of science and technology and in strengthening capacities for multidimensional and multi-hazard risk assessment, risk analytics and strategic foresight, and capitalize on the risk data and risk modelling capacity of the private sector, including development of tools for multi-hazard risk assessments, and in this regard takes note of the ongoing work on the Global Risk Assessment Framework and Risk Information Exchange;

18. *Recognizes* the important contribution of healthy ecosystems to reducing disaster risk and building community resilience, encourages all States, United Nations entities and other relevant actors to promote nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches, among other approaches for disaster risk reduction at all levels and across all phases of disaster risk reduction and management, and reiterates the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity as well as providing long-term and affordable investments in these approaches to reduce the impacts and costs of disasters;

19. *Stresses* the need to foster better understanding and knowledge of the causes of disasters, as well as to build and strengthen coping capacities, in particular in developing countries through, inter alia, the exchange of best practices, technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, educational and training programmes for disaster risk reduction, access to relevant data and information, the strengthening of institutional arrangements and the promotion of community participation and ownership through community-based disaster risk management approaches;

20. *Acknowledges* the importance of community-driven disaster risk reduction and resilience efforts, and supports efforts to scale up community-level pre-disaster recovery and reconstruction planning;

21. *Also acknowledges* that water is essential to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, that water-related disasters and multidimensional hazards threaten lives, livelihoods, agriculture and basic service infrastructure and cause substantial socioeconomic damage and losses, and that sustainable, integrated disaster risk-informed water resource management is necessary for successful disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, in this regard invites all countries to integrate land and water management, including for floods and droughts, into their national and subnational planning and management processes, and reiterates that the

[204] A/71/644.

achievement of the water-related goals and targets would contribute to the successful implementation of the Sendai Framework;

22. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations to take further steps to address the food and nutrition needs of affected populations, prioritizing tools that strengthen resilience to current crises and future shocks, and integrating a disaster risk reduction perspective aimed at improving food security and nutrition;

23. *Recognizes* that the Sendai Framework, including its core provision to "build back better", provides guidance relevant to a sustainable recovery from COVID-19 and also to identify and address underlying drivers of disaster risk in a systemic manner, that biological hazards require strengthened systematic coordination, coherence and integration between disaster and health risk management systems in the areas of risk assessment, surveillance and early warning, and that resilient health infrastructure and strengthened health systems capable of implementing the International Health Regulations (2005),[205] as well as increasing the overall capacity of health systems, including through the application of the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework and other relevant initiatives, as appropriate, to reduce overall disaster risk and build disaster resilience, while also recognizing the value of integrated approaches, including the One Health approach and other holistic approaches that foster cooperation between human health, animal health and plant health as well as environmental and other relevant sectors;

24. *Also recognizes* that disaster risk reduction requires a multi-hazard and systemic approach and inclusive risk-informed decision-making based on the open exchange and dissemination of data disaggregated by, inter alia, income, sex, age and disability, and analysis with an adequate understanding of how the information is to be interpreted and used, as well as on easily accessible, up-to-date, comprehensible, interoperable, science-based, non-sensitive risk information, for a wide range of users and decision makers, complemented by traditional knowledge, and in this regard encourages States to commence or, as appropriate, further enhance the collection and analysis of data on disaster loss and other relevant disaster risk reduction targets, disaggregated by income, sex, age and disability and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, and to strengthen inter-institutional, inclusive coordination on disaster risk data and integrated analysis, and invites Member States to mobilize national statistical and planning offices and other relevant authorities, and strengthen their capacity in the systemic collection, analysis and validation of disaster risk data to institutionalize its use in decision-making processes and investments across sectors;

25. *Further recognizes* the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council on 2 July 2018 of the Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters,[206] as a guide for Member States to ensure the availability and accessibility of quality geospatial information and services across all phases of disaster risk reduction and management, and which contributes to the implementation of the Sendai Framework, and encourages the application of space-based technologies and geospatial information systems as a cost-effective input to disaster risk assessments;

26. *Emphasizes* the importance of a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to and systemic risk management of disaster risk reduction, reflecting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recognizing that disaster prevention, preparedness, early and anticipatory actions, and resilience-building, in most cases, are significantly more cost-effective than emergency responses, stresses the importance of promoting the further development of and investment in effective national and regional multi-hazard early warning mechanisms, where relevant, and facilitating the sharing and exchange of information across all countries, welcomes the call by the Secretary-General for a United Nations action plan to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years as an accelerator towards the achievement of target (g) of the Sendai Framework, recognizes the importance of the CREWS initiative in achieving that goal and takes note with appreciation of the findings of the *Global Status of Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems: Target (g)* report, and calls upon all relevant entities of the United Nations system to ensure a coordinated and integrated approach in the implementation of the early warning action plan presented at the twenty-seventh Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

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[205] World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

[206] Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/14, annex.

27. *Encourages* States to use the online Sendai Framework monitor to report on progress against the Sustainable Development Goals related to disaster risk to provide, inter alia, a comprehensive overview of progress to inform the deliberations and outcomes of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and recalls the ongoing work towards integrated national climate change adaptation and national disaster risk reduction strategies as well as the Sendai Framework targets, and further recalls ongoing work under the Paris Agreement[207] on the global goal on adaptation;

28. *Encourages* countries to apply a comprehensive approach to disaster and climate risk management and to establish or strengthen policy, programmatic and financing coherence between national climate change adaptation and national disaster risk reduction strategies, as well as sector-specific plans, as appropriate, and apply the Sendai Framework for the effective implementation of all the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement;[208]

29. *Reaffirms* that the establishment of common indicators and shared data sets to measure the Sendai Framework global targets and the disaster risk reduction targets of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 11 and 13, as well as in the monitoring of the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[209] are important contributions to ensure coherence, feasibility and consistency in implementation, the collection of data and reporting, calls for coherence between the Sendai Framework global targets and the monitoring of the Doha Programme of Action, and in this regard recognizes the importance of prioritizing capacity-building support to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges;

30. *Encourages* States to give appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[210] where it is reflected across several Goals and targets, including in their voluntary national reviews, inter alia, through the engagement of national Sendai Framework focal points early in the national review process, as appropriate, and stresses the importance of considering disaster risk reduction in the deliberations and outcomes of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and integrating disaster risk reduction across the work of the Economic and Social Council, including as a contribution to the midterm review of the Sendai Framework in 2023;

31. *Reiterates* its strong encouragement of and the need for effective coordination and coherence, as applicable, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[211] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Sendai Framework, as well as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity,[212] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[213] and the New Urban Agenda, while respecting the relevant mandates, in order to build synergies and resilience, translate integrated global policy frameworks, as appropriate, into national laws, policies or regulations defining roles and responsibilities across the public and private sectors, as well as into integrated multisectoral programmes at the national and local levels, and reduce disaster risk across sectors, and addressing the global challenge of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty;

32. *Recognizes* the important work and contribution of regional and subregional organizations in advancing cooperation in disaster risk reduction at the regional level, encourages greater engagement and partnership between the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and regional and subregional organizations to accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework, and also encourages the participation of regional and subregional organizations in the midterm review of the Sendai Framework;

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

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

[209] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[210] Resolution 70/1.

[211] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[212] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[213] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

33. *Encourages* countries, the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to take into consideration the important role of coordinated, inclusive and participatory disaster risk governance across sectors for the achievement of sustainable development and, inter alia, the strengthening of disaster prevention as well as preparedness for effective response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction, including through disaster risk reduction and response financing;

34. *Urges* that due consideration continue to be given to the review of the global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework as part of the integrated and coordinated follow-up processes to United Nations conferences and summits, aligned with the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycles, as appropriate, taking into account the contributions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the Sendai Framework monitor;

35. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation for disaster risk reduction includes a variety of sources and is a critical element in supporting the efforts of developing countries to reduce disaster risk, and encourages States to strengthen international and regional information exchange and information-sharing, including through North-South cooperation complemented by South-South and triangular cooperation, establishing and networking risk management centres, promoting critical science and technology research cooperation on disaster reduction and improving international coordination mechanisms to respond to largescale disasters;

36. *Recognizes* that effective and meaningful global and regional partnerships and the further strengthening of international cooperation, including the fulfilment of respective commitments of official development assistance by developed countries, are essential for effective disaster risk management and the ability of developing countries, including those most vulnerable to disasters, to effectively enhance and implement national disaster risk reduction policies and measures, taking into account their respective national circumstances and capabilities;

37. *Reaffirms* the need for the enhancement of the means of implementation and the capacity and capability of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, including the mobilization of support through international cooperation, for the provision of means of implementation to augment domestic efforts in accordance with their national priorities;

38. *Encourages* the incorporation of disaster risk reduction measures, as appropriate, into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes and infrastructure financing, including through North-South cooperation complemented by South-South as well as triangular cooperation, within and across all sectors related to sustainable development, and calls for international cooperation that is aligned with national disaster risk reduction strategies and more risk-informed and for alignment between national development cooperation policies and national disaster risk reduction strategies;

39. *Recognizes* that financing for disaster risk reduction requires greater attention, and in this regard encourages increased investments in disaster risk reduction, including resilient infrastructure, and calls upon the United Nations system and its entities, within the scope of their respective mandates, in partnership with international financial institutions, regional development banks and other relevant institutions and stakeholders, to support developing countries in developing comprehensive disaster risk reduction financing strategies in support of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, and incentivizing investments in resilience, prevention and rehabilitation, and to explore the development of tailored financing mechanisms for disaster risk reduction, including forecast-based financing approaches and disaster risk insurance mechanisms;

40. *Encourages* States to allocate increased domestic resources to disaster risk reduction, including resilient infrastructure, to include disaster risk reduction in budgeting and financial planning across all relevant sectors, and to ensure that national financing frameworks and infrastructure plans are risk-informed, according to national plans and policies;

41. *Recognizes* that economic losses are rising as a result of the increasing number and value of assets exposed to hazards, encourages countries to conduct a disaster risk assessment of existing critical infrastructure, to ensure that infrastructure plans are aligned to national disaster risk reduction strategies and risk assessments, to support the publication of disaster risk assessments, to make multi-hazard disaster risk assessments a prerequisite for infrastructure, housing and real estate investments in all sectors, to routinely conduct stress testing of existing infrastructure and to strengthen regulatory frameworks for land-use planning and building codes, as appropriate,

towards the achievement of target (d) of the Sendai Framework, and in this regard also encourages countries and other relevant stakeholders to integrate disaster risk reduction considerations into their social, economic and environmental investments;

42. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to collaborate with the private sector to enhance the resilience of businesses, as well as the societies within which they operate, by integrating disaster risk into their management practices, to facilitate private investments in disaster risk reduction and to promote risk-informed private investments and the disclosure of disaster risk in business operations and asset values, and also encourages the engagement of credit rating agencies, the insurance sector and the financial services sector in disaster risk reduction, to support countries in the development of innovative instruments, tools and guidelines for de-risking investments and to enhance financing available for disaster risk reduction;

43. *Reaffirms* that investing in national and local skills, systems and knowledge to build resilience and preparedness will save lives, reduce the risk of displacement in the context of disasters, strengthen the adaptive capacity of food production systems and enhance food security, cut costs and preserve development gains, and in this regard encourages exploring innovative ways, such as forecast-based financing approaches and disaster risk insurance mechanisms, to increase the availability of resources for Member States before a disaster is credibly expected to occur;

44. *Recalls* that the economic and environmental vulnerability index gives consideration to the impacts of disasters, recognizes the relevance of disaster risk and the impact of disasters in the process of graduation from the least developed country category, encourages the integration of disaster risk reduction into the smooth transition strategies of graduating countries in order to promote the sustainability of development progress, including the impact assessment of the likely consequences of graduation and the vulnerability profiles, and also encourages development and trading partners of graduating and recently graduated countries to support those countries in reducing disaster risk and building resilience;

45. *Recognizes* the importance of giving priority to the development of local and national disaster risk reduction capacity-building, policies, strategies and plans with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with national practices and legislation;

46. *Also recognizes* that, while each State has the primary responsibility for preventing and reducing disaster risk, it is a shared responsibility between Governments and relevant stakeholders, and recognizes that non-State and other relevant stakeholders, including major groups, parliaments, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, Indigenous Peoples and their organizations, national platforms for disaster risk reduction focal points for the Sendai Framework, local government representatives, scientific institutions and the private sector, as well as organizations and relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and intergovernmental organizations, play an important role as enablers in providing support to States, in accordance with national policies, laws and regulations, in the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local, national, regional and global levels, and that greater efforts are needed to mobilize multi-stakeholder partnerships for disaster risk reduction, according to national plans and policies;

47. *Encourages* Governments to promote the full, equal and effective participation and leadership of women, as well as of persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations, the design, management, resourcing and implementation of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes, and recognizes in this regard that women and girls are disproportionately exposed to risk, increased loss of livelihoods and even loss of life during and in the aftermath of disasters, and that disasters and the consequent disruption to physical, social, economic and environmental networks and support systems disproportionately affect persons with disabilities and their families;

48. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities, as well as other people in vulnerable situations, into disaster risk management, and of engaging and appropriately drawing on the capacities of children, youth, including young professionals, as contributors in disaster risk management so as to strengthen the resilience of communities and reduce social vulnerabilities to disasters, and in this regard recognizes the need for the inclusive participation and contribution of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as well as the role of youth, volunteers, migrants, academia, scientific and research entities and networks, business, professional associations, private sector financing institutions and the media, in all forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction, in accordance with the Sendai Framework;

49. *Acknowledges* the continuous work of the entities of the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates, in supporting the efforts of developing countries in the area of disaster risk reduction, including through the inclusion, where appropriate, of disaster risk reduction in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and as part of the common country assessment's multidimensional analysis, requests the relevant United Nations entities and United Nations country teams, and urges other relevant stakeholders, to continue to integrate disaster risk reduction and the implementation of the Sendai Framework into their work and to align their work with the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development, guided by the Senior Leadership Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience convened by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, and welcomes the establishment of the Centre of Excellence on Climate and Disaster Resilience;

50. *Also acknowledges* the importance of the work of the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in disaster risk reduction, the substantial increase in demands on the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the need for timely, stable, adequate and predictable resources necessary for supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework, and in this regard encourages Member States to consider providing or augmenting voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction;

51. *Recognizes* the continued importance of voluntary funding, and urges existing and new donors to provide sufficient funding and, where possible, to augment financial contributions to the United Nations trust fund for disaster reduction to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework, including through unearmarked and, where possible, multi-annual contributions;

52. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction as forums to assess and discuss progress on the implementation of the Sendai Framework and advance coherence between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation, including financing, and recognizes their outcomes as contributions to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

53. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Indonesia for hosting the seventh session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Bali from 23 to 28 May 2022, also expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Jamaica, Kenya, Morocco and Portugal for hosting, in 2021, to the Government of Australia for hosting, in 2022, and to the Government of Uruguay for hosting, in 2023, the regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, events jointly organized with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, and encourages participation by all stakeholders, sectors and ministries at the highest level possible;

54. *Recognizes* the importance of the discussions that took place at the seventh session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Bali, Indonesia, and other regional platforms for disaster risk reduction in strengthening the commitment to achieving the targets of the Sendai Framework and as valuable inputs to the midterm review;

55. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the incorporation of disaster risk knowledge, including disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, financing, response, recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation, in formal and non-formal education, as well as in civic education at all levels and in professional education and training, and of raising awareness and creating a culture of disaster prevention, resilience and responsible citizenship to foster all-of-society engagement in disaster risk reduction, and emphasizes the need for new and existing educational infrastructure, school facilities and teaching and learning practices to be risk-informed, resilient and fully accessible to all, which requires channelling financial and other resources towards strengthening these efforts;

56. *Recognizes* the need to promote traditional, local and Indigenous knowledge and wisdom that have been tested and improved through generations across the world, to further strengthen scientific practices and know-how and enhance efforts on awareness-raising and education on disaster risk reduction;

57. *Welcomes* the annual observance of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on 13 October and World Tsunami Awareness Day on 5 November, as well as World Water Day on 22 March and World Meteorological Day on 23 March, and encourages all States, United Nations bodies and other relevant actors to observe the Days to further raise public awareness of disaster risk reduction;

58. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

59. *Recognizes* that the findings of the midterm review of the Sendai Framework and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review will be an input to the Sustainable Development Goals Summit and the global stocktake of the Paris Agreement in 2023 and the Summit of the Future in 2024, as well as the reviews of and successor frameworks to the Samoa Pathway and the Vienna Programme of Action and the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action, towards a risk-informed approach to sustainable development and climate action in all sectors and in all countries;

60. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, the effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon and the implementation of the United Nations action plan to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction".

RESOLUTION 77/165

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.4, para. 11)[214]

77/165. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/53 of 6 December 1988, 54/222 of 22 December 1999, 62/86 of 10 December 2007, 63/32 of 26 November 2008, 64/73 of 7 December 2009, 65/159 of 20 December 2010, 66/200 of 22 December 2011, 67/210 of 21 December 2012, 68/212 of 20 December 2013, 69/220 of 19 December 2014, 70/205 of 22 December 2015, 71/228 of 21 December 2016, 72/219 of 20 December 2017, 73/232 of 20 December 2018, 74/219 of 19 December 2019, 75/217 of 21 December 2020 and 76/205 of 17 December 2021 and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

Recalling also the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[215] and the Paris Agreement,[216] acknowledging that they are the primary international, intergovernmental forums for negotiating the global response to climate change, expressing determination to address decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation, recognizing that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible international cooperation aimed at accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions and addressing adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change, and noting with concern the significant gap between the aggregate effect of parties' mitigation pledges, in particular their nationally determined contributions, as appropriate, and aggregate emission pathways,

Recalling further the Paris Agreement, which, pursuant to article 2, paragraph 2, thereof, will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances,

Recalling the outcomes of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, as well as the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, and urging their full implementation,

Recalling also the entry into force on 1 January 2019 of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer,[217] welcoming its ratification by 142 countries and one regional economic integration organization, while encouraging further ratifications as soon as possible, and recalling the thirty-fourth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, held from 31 October to 4 November 2022 in Montreal, Canada,

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[214] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[215] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

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

[217] UNEP/OzL.Pro.28/12, annex I.

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[218] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[219] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[220] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[221] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[222] the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Türkiye, from 27 to 29 May 2016,[223] the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014,[224] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[225] the Mauritius Declaration[226] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[227] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[228] the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[229] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[230] the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[231] and the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the decade 2022–2031, adopted at the first part of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 17 March 2022,[232]

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

Noting with concern that a prolonged economic downturn following the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic can adversely impact the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

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[218] Resolution 55/2.

[219] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[220] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[221] Resolution 60/1.

[222] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[223] Resolution 70/294, annex.

[224] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[225] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[226] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[227] Ibid., annex II.

[228] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[229] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[230] *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.

[231] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[232] Resolution 76/258, annex.

and the Paris Agreement and the ability of countries, especially developing countries, to adequately respond to the adverse impacts of climate change, and emphasizing that, in the response to the crisis, countries should keep the Sustainable Development Goals and climate commitments in focus,

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 negative impacts of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic on efforts to achieve a substantial reduction in disaster-related mortality and disaster-related losses and the deepened vulnerabilities to disasters and exposure to hazards, recalling the contribution of various initiatives, including the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, as well as regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction, and reaffirming the importance of coherence between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and the response to the threat of climate change and the findings of the 2022 *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, and recognizing that disaster risk reduction efforts consistent with the Sendai Framework contribute to strengthening resilience and climate change adaptation and that the development and implementation of risk-informed strategic plans, policies, programmes and investments and national and local disaster risk reduction strategies are essential for sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard looks forward to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework to be held in New York on 18 and 19 May 2023,

Noting with concern the findings contained in the special reports[233] of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, as well as findings from the contributions of the Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel,

Acknowledging that action on adaptation to climate change is an urgent priority and a global challenge faced by all countries, in particular developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, recognizing that the current need for adaptation is significant and that greater levels of mitigation can reduce the need for additional adaptation efforts, and recognizing also the importance of the adequacy and predictability of adaptation finance and of the Adaptation Fund and that the provision of scaled-up financial resources should be aimed at achieving a balance between adaptation and mitigation,

Reiterating its support for the objectives and guiding principles of the Green Climate Fund, including a gender-sensitive approach in its process and operations, and stressing its goal of ensuring efficient access to its resources through simplified approval procedures and enhancing readiness support, which will help to deliver outcomes in developing countries so as to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help them adapt to the impacts of climate change,

Recalling with appreciation the pledges made to the Green Climate Fund towards the first formal replenishment period of the Fund, resulting in a confirmed pledge of 9.866 billion United States dollars, and encouraging further pledges and contributions towards the second replenishment,

Recognizing that climate change is a major and growing driver of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation and that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and ecosystem functions and services, contribute significantly to climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk reduction, the resilience of agriculture and food systems, and food security and nutrition,

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[233] *Global Warming of 1.5 °C, Climate Change and Land: An IPCC Special Report on Climate Change, Desertification, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Food Security, and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Terrestrial Ecosystems* and *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*.

Recalling the summit on biodiversity held on 30 September 2020, welcoming the first part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in a hybrid format in Kunming, China, and looking forward to the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in Montreal, Canada, from 7 to 19 December 2022, and its adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework by parties to the Convention,

Noting the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation at all levels among the parties to and secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[234] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[235] as appropriate, while respecting their individual mandates,

Recalling the initiative of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity at its fourteenth meeting to promote a coherent approach between the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (the Rio conventions), to address biodiversity loss, climate change and land and ecosystem degradation,

Noting the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to addressing the challenge of, inter alia, climate change, within its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and stakeholders,

Recalling with appreciation the interactive dialogue on Harmony with Nature convened by the President of the General Assembly under the overall theme "Harmony with Nature and biodiversity: contributions of ecological economics and Earth-centred law" in the implementation of education and climate action in harmony with nature, held on 22 April 2022, in commemoration of International Mother Earth Day,

Recalling the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,[236] and acknowledging that all types of forests contribute substantially to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and noting with appreciation recent forest-related declarations, pledges and developments, including but not limited to the forest-relevant contributions of the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use,

Noting that forests are addressed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, noting also article 5 of the Paris Agreement, in particular the importance of taking action to implement and support, including through results-based payments, the Warsaw Framework for REDD-plus[237] and alternative policy approaches, such as joint mitigation and adaptation approaches for the integral and sustainable management of forests, and recalling decision 9/CP.19 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,[238]

Reaffirming its resolution 76/296 of 21 July 2022, entitled "Our ocean, our future, our responsibility", in which it endorsed the political declaration of the 2022 United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, recognizing its contribution to the implementation of Goal 14 in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, while underlining the interlinkages and potential synergies between Goal 14 and the other Goals, recognizing also that the implementation of Goal 14 can contribute significantly to the realization of the 2030 Agenda, and in this regard looking forward to a third Ocean Conference, to be held in 2025,

Noting with concern that climate change is one of the factors that can exacerbate global water stress and the need for climate adaptation strategies to address water issues, acknowledging that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development, and looking forward to the convening of the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, "Water for

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[234] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[235] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[236] See resolution 71/285.

[237] See FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1, decisions 9/CP.19 to 15/CP.19; see also FCCC/CP/2013/10 and FCCC/CP/2013/10/Corr.1, para. 44.

[238] See FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1.

Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, in New York from 22 to 24 March 2023, referred to as the United Nations 2023 Water Conference,

Stressing that low greenhouse gas emission development can create employment opportunities and quality jobs, in accordance with nationally defined development priorities,

Noting the contributions of the International Civil Aviation Organization to global efforts to combat climate change, and noting also the contributions of the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

Encouraging Member States to pursue efforts to achieve sustainable consumption and production in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/11 of 2 March 2022,[239]

Recognizing that, in undertaking its work, the United Nations should promote the protection of the global climate for the well-being of present and future generations of humankind,

1. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, 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, land degradation, sea level rise, coastal erosion, ocean acidification and the retreat of mountain glaciers, further threatening food security, water availability and livelihoods, and efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions and achieve sustainable development, recognizes the substantial risks posed by climate change to health, and emphasizes in this regard that mitigation of and adaptation to climate change represent an immediate and urgent global priority;

2. *Urges* Member States to adopt a climate- and environment-responsive approach to COVID-19 recovery efforts, including by aligning investments and domestic policies with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[240] and the goals of the Paris Agreement for its parties, and the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in order to achieve a sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery, and accelerate a transition to low-emission, climate-resilient, inclusive and sustainable economies and societies, in this regard stresses the need to strengthen the global response to climate change by increasing the ability of countries to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change, fostering resilience, accelerating the full implementation of all the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda and integrating climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning, urges parties to the Paris Agreement to communicate or update ambitious nationally determined contributions, noting that article 4, paragraph 3, of the Agreement states that each party's successive nationally determined contribution will represent a progression beyond the party's then current nationally determined contribution and reflect its highest possible ambition, reflecting its common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances, encourages parties to formulate and communicate long-term strategies on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge and with a view to achieving the purpose of the Agreement and make financial flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development, and stresses the importance of mobilizing means of implementation from all sources, including adequate financial support, inter alia, for mitigation and adaptation, taking into account the specific needs and special circumstances of developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;

3. *Encourages* all the parties to the Paris Agreement to fully implement the Agreement, and highlights the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Agreement;

4. *Recalls* that the Paris Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change, increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does

[239] UNEP/EA.5/Res.11.

[240] Resolution 70/1.

not threaten food production, and making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development;

5. *Reaffirms* the Paris Agreement temperature goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognizes that the impacts of climate change will be much lower at the temperature increase of 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared with 2 degrees Celsius, and resolves to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius, also recognizes that limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius requires rapid, deep and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions, including reducing global carbon dioxide emissions by 45 per cent by 2030 relative to the 2010 level and to net zero around mid-century, as well as deep reductions in other greenhouse gases, further recognizes that this requires accelerated action in this critical decade, on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge and equity, reflecting common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, and, in accordance with article 4 of the Paris Agreement, reiterates the aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, recognizing that peaking will take longer for developing countries, and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with best available science, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty;

6. *Welcomes* the nationally determined contributions submitted to date, and recalls that the regular updating of such contributions will reflect the highest possible level of ambition, in the light of different national circumstances, and provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding, in accordance with the relevant decisions;

7. *Notes with concern* that, according to the synthesis report on nationally determined contributions[241] published by the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the nationally determined contributions presented thus far by the parties to the Paris Agreement are not sufficient and that action is needed to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, urges parties that have not yet communicated new or updated nationally determined contributions to do so as soon as possible, and encourages parties to communicate in 2025 nationally determined contributions with an end date of 2035, in 2030 a nationally determined contribution with an end date of 2040 and so forth every five years thereafter;

8. *Recalls* article 3 and article 4, paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 11, of the Paris Agreement, requests countries to revisit and strengthen the 2030 targets in their nationally determined contributions, as necessary, to align with the Paris Agreement temperature goal by the end of 2022, taking into account different national circumstances, and urges parties that have not yet done so to communicate, as soon as possible, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies referred to in article 4, paragraph 19, of the Paris Agreement towards just transitions to net-zero emissions by or around mid-century, taking into account different national circumstances, and to update the strategies regularly, as appropriate, in line with the best available science;

9. *Notes with serious concern* the findings from the contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in which the Intergovernmental Panel indicates that global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius and 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels will be exceeded during the twenty-first century, unless deep reductions in greenhouse gas emissions occur in the coming decades, from the contribution of Working Group II, in which the Intergovernmental Panel indicates that human-induced climate change has caused widespread adverse impacts and related losses and damages to nature and people reaching some adaptation limits and that adaptation plays a key role in reducing exposure and vulnerability to climate change, and from the contribution of Working Group III, in which the Intergovernmental Panel stressed that accelerated and equitable climate action in mitigating and adapting to climate change impacts is critical to sustainable development;

10. *Stresses* the urgent need to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events, and in this regard urges Member States to continue to engage in adaptation planning processes and to enhance cooperation at all levels, including with regard to disaster risk reduction;

[241] FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/8/Rev.1.

11. *Welcomes* the Paris Agreement work programme, commonly referred to as the Katowice Rulebook, adopted at the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement,[242] and welcomes with appreciation the completion of the Paris Agreement work programme by the third session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, including the adoption of the decisions relating to article 4, paragraphs 10 and 12, article 6, paragraphs 2, 4 and 8, article 7, paragraph 12, and article 13;

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;[243]

13. *Emphasizes* the need for collective efforts to promote sustainable development in its three dimensions in an innovative, coordinated, environmentally sound, open and shared manner;

14. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, emphasizes the need for action at all levels, to enhance efforts to build resilience through, inter alia, the sustainable management of ecosystems, and to build resilience to reduce the impacts and costs of climate-related disasters, and in that regard encourages Governments and relevant organizations to integrate nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches and other management and conservation approaches, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/5 of 2 March 2022,[244] to climate change adaptation and mitigation and disaster risk reduction into their strategic planning, as appropriate, across sectors;

15. *Recognizes* that the enhanced access to international climate finance is important to support mitigation and adaptation efforts in developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and also recognizes the ongoing efforts in this regard;

16. *Notes with deep regret* that the goal of developed country parties to mobilize jointly 100 billion United States dollars per year by 2020 in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation has not yet been met, while welcoming the increased pledges made by many developed country parties, and the "Climate finance delivery plan: meeting the US$100 billion goal" and the collective actions contained therein, urges developed country parties to fully deliver on the goal of 100 billion United States dollars urgently and through to 2025, and emphasizes the importance of transparency in the implementation of their pledges;

17. *Recalls* the decisions to set a new collective quantified goal on climate finance from a floor of 100 billion United States dollars per year and prior to 2025, and welcomes the establishment of an ad hoc work programme for this purpose;

18. *Notes with concern* that the current provision of climate finance for adaptation remains insufficient to respond to worsening climate change impacts in developing country parties, welcomes the recent pledges made by many developed country parties to increase their provision of climate finance to support adaptation in developing country parties in response to their growing needs, including contributions made to the Adaptation Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund, which represent significant progress compared with previous efforts, and urges developed country parties to at least double their collective provision of climate finance for adaptation to developing country parties from 2019 levels by 2025, in the context of achieving a balance between mitigation and adaptation in the provision of scaled-up financial resources, and emphasizes the urgency of scaling up action and support, including finance, capacity-building and technology transfer, to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change in line with the best available science, taking into account the priorities and needs of developing country parties;

19. *Calls upon* multilateral development banks, other financial institutions and the private sector to enhance finance mobilization in order to deliver the scale of resources needed to achieve climate plans, particularly for adaptation, and encourages parties to continue to explore innovative approaches and instruments for mobilizing finance for adaptation from private sources;

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[242] See FCCC/CP/2018/10/Add.1.

[243] A/77/215, sect. I.

[244] UNEP/EA.5/Res.5.

20. *Recognizes* the importance for all countries of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow-onset events, and the role of sustainable development in reducing the risk of loss and damage, and in that regard looks forward to the outcome of the review in 2024 of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, in the context of relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and article 8 of the Paris Agreement, as well as of relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement;

21. *Reiterates* the urgency of scaling up action and support, as appropriate, including finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, for implementing approaches for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in developing country parties that are particularly vulnerable to these effects;

22. *Urges* Member States, taking into account that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by climate change owing to gender inequalities and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods, to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources towards achieving the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues, stresses the need to address the challenges posed by climate change that affect women and girls in particular, and calls upon countries to strengthen the implementation of the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-fifth session;[245]

23. *Notes* the ongoing work and potential of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, established for the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner, recalls decision 2/CP.23 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Platform's purpose and functions[246] and decision 16/CP.26 of the Conference of the Parties on the continuation of the mandate of the Facilitative Working Group of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform,[247] and also recalls decision 1/CMA.3 of the Conference of the Parties on the active involvement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in designing and implementing climate action;[248]

24. *Recalls*, in line with decision 1/CMA.3, the call to accelerate the development, deployment and dissemination of technologies and the adoption of policies to transition towards low-emission energy systems, including by rapidly scaling up the deployment of clean power generation and energy efficiency measures, including accelerating efforts towards the phase-down of unabated coal power and phase-out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies, while providing targeted support to the poorest and most vulnerable, in line with national circumstances, and recognizing the need for support towards a just transition;

25. *Recognizes* the invitation to the relevant work programmes and constituted bodies under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to consider how to integrate and strengthen ocean-based action in their existing mandates and workplans and to report on these activities within the existing reporting processes, as appropriate, and welcomes in this regard the first annual dialogue, held in Bonn, Germany, in June 2022;

26. *Congratulates* the 147 countries and one regional economic integration organization that have accepted or ratified the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol,[249] welcomes the entry into force of the Amendment on 31 December 2020, which was the end date of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, and strongly urges countries that have accepted or ratified the Amendment to implement their pre-2020 commitments to the fullest extent as soon as possible;

27. *Welcomes* the convening of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the seventeenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving

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[245] FCCC/CP/2019/13/Add.1, decision 3/CP.25, annex.

[246] See FCCC/CP/2017/11/Add.1.

[247] See FCCC/CP/2021/12/Add.2.

[248] See FCCC/PA/CMA/2021/10/Add.1.

[249] See FCCC/KP/CMP/2012/13/Add.1.

as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, presided over by the Government of Egypt in Sharm el-Sheikh, from 6 to 20 November 2022, and the adoption of their outcomes by parties, and looks forward to their full and urgent implementation;

28. *Looks forward* to the hosting by the Government of the United Arab Emirates of the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in 2023;

29. *Acknowledges* the work undertaken under the auspices of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action,[250] and encourages non-party stakeholders to scale up their efforts to address and respond to climate change;

30. *Recalls* the action plan for integrating sustainable development practices into Secretariat-wide operations and facilities management submitted by the Secretary-General,[251] as endorsed in resolution 72/219;

31. *Notes* the invitation by the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to the Secretary-General to convene world leaders in 2023 to consider ambition to 2030;

32. *Decides* to include in the United Nations calendar of conferences and meetings for the years 2023 and 2024 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies envisaged for the years 2023 and 2024;

33. *Invites* the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind".

RESOLUTION 77/166

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.5, para. 8)[252]

77/166. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/206 of 17 December 2021, as well as other resolutions relating to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[253]

Reaffirming 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, and 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,

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[250] See FCCC/CP/2016/10/Add.1.

[251] A/72/82.

[252] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[253] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

Recalling that, in the 2030 Agenda, the international community committed to combating desertification, restoring degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and striving to achieve a land degradation-neutral world by 2030,

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,

Recognizing that Sustainable Development Goal targets 15.3, 6.1 and 6.6 and the setting of voluntary land degradation neutrality targets have created strong momentum for accelerating the implementation of the Convention,

Noting that restoring degraded lands generates benefits for poor populations, brings more food to the hungry and to the markets, restores ecosystems and biodiversity and enhances resilience to climate change impacts, including by sequestering huge quantities of carbon from the atmosphere and bringing carbon into the soil,

Recalling that, in its decision 3/COP.14,[254] the Conference of the Parties to the Convention invited parties that have committed to voluntary land degradation neutrality targets to implement measures to accelerate the achievement thereof, by, inter alia, creating an enabling environment for the achievement of land degradation neutrality, including the responsible governance of land and tenure security, the engagement of stakeholders and the improved access of smallholders to advisory and financial services, therefore, taking note with appreciation of the pledge made by 129 countries to establish national voluntary targets and relevant measures to achieve land degradation neutrality by 2030, while 107 parties have successfully completed this voluntary process and 100 have already published their national reports on the website of the Convention,

Noting that combating desertification, land degradation and drought, including through the sustainable management of natural resources, can contribute to sustainable development for all and to easing displacement flows,

Bearing in mind its resolution 73/284 of 1 March 2019, in which it declared the decade 2021–2030 as the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration,

Recalling the adoption of the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the Convention,[255] including a new strategic objective on drought,

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement[256] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[257] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recognizing that climate change, unsustainable agricultural and forestry practices and land degradation, inter alia, are major and growing drivers of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, and that conservation, restoration and the sustainable use of biodiversity, and ecosystem functions and services, sustainable land management, ecosystem-based approaches and nature-based solutions contribute significantly to land degradation neutrality, climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk reduction and food security and nutrition,

Noting with concern the findings of the second edition of *Global Land Outlook* and the findings of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services land degradation and restoration assessment and its *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*, the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change contained in its special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security, and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems, as well as the findings contained in the special report of the Panel entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C*,

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[254] See ICCD/COP(14)/23/Add.1.

[255] ICCD/COP(13)/21/Add.1, decision 7/COP.13, annex, and ICCD/COP(15)/23/Add.1, decision 7/COP.15.

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

[257] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Recognizing the interdependencies between biodiversity loss, pollution, climate change, desertification and land degradation and their interlinkages with human well-being, including health,

Deeply concerned about the continuous trend in land degradation and the fact that the impacts of desertification, land degradation and drought are felt most strongly by people in vulnerable situations,

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 that combating desertification, land degradation and drought is important for sustainable, inclusive and climate-resilient recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, that it is important to integrate land conservation, protection and restoration, sustainable land management, degraded soil and terrestrial ecosystems restoration, combating desertification and the aim of land degradation neutrality into the global agenda for sustainable development, and that careful targeting of the COVID-19 recovery investments, including land restoration, creates economic opportunities that contribute to environmental sustainability and poverty eradication,

Recalling the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,[258] and acknowledging that all types of forests provide essential ecosystem services, such as timber, food, fuel, fodder, non-wood products and shelter, as well as soil and water conservation and clean air, that the sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests is vital to the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and that forests prevent land degradation and desertification and reduce the risk of floods, soil erosion, landslides and avalanches, droughts, sand and dust storms and other disasters,

Reiterating its appreciation to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire for hosting the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, held in Abidjan from 9 to 20 May 2022, and welcoming the offer made by the Government of Saudi Arabia and the Government of Mongolia to host the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Conference of the Parties, in 2024 and 2026, respectively,

Recalling the establishment of a new intergovernmental working group on drought during the triennium 2022–2024, with a view to presenting its findings and recommendations to the parties for their consideration at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Reaffirming the importance of government leadership, multi-stakeholder partnerships and increasing private engagement for the sustainable management, restoration and rehabilitation of ecosystems, biodiversity and land,

Highlighting the importance of multi-stakeholder participation at the local, subnational, national and regional levels and from all sectors of society, including civil society organizations, local government and the private sector, as appropriate, in the implementation of the Convention and its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework,

Recognizing the value of knowledge, education, science and new technology to sustainable land management, including making use of, inter alia, the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, emphasizing the importance of science-based decision-making and that science and technology to combat desertification, land degradation and drought should therefore be further promoted, and acknowledging the work of the Science-Policy Interface of the Convention,

[258] See resolution 71/285.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 76/206 on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[259]

2. *Welcomes* the decisions of the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and stresses the importance of their effective implementation;

3. *Urges* the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the agreed intergovernmentally negotiated outcomes and decisions of the subsequent United Nations climate change conferences;

4. *Takes note* of the Abidjan Call, which urged giving the highest priority to the issue of drought prevention, resilience, impact mitigation and accelerating the implementation of existing national commitments, towards achieving land degradation neutrality by 2030 and raising ambition for investments in large-scale land restoration projects and programmes, which also help countries and communities to prepare for and mitigate the impacts of drought;

5. *Invites* Member States to support efforts to implement the strategic objectives of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

6. *Welcomes* the voluntary commitment of the parties to the Convention to accelerate the restoration of 1 billion hectares of degraded land by 2030 by improving data gathering and monitoring to track progress against the achievement of land restoration commitments and establishing a new partnership model for large-scale integrated landscape investment programmes;

7. *Strongly encourages* the parties to the Convention to apply and align with the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the Convention in their national policies, programmes, plans and processes relating to desertification, land degradation and drought, and to implement the Strategic Framework, taking into account the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[260]

8. *Welcomes* the establishment of an intergovernmental working group to oversee the midterm evaluation process related to the 2018–2030 Strategic Framework of the Convention, which is to present its findings and recommendations to the parties for their consideration at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties;

9. *Reaffirms* that reducing land degradation and achieving land degradation neutrality has the potential to act as an accelerator and integrator for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and as a catalyst for attracting sustainable development financing and climate finance to implement the Convention, and respond to the overall objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[261]

10. *Reiterates* the need to combat desertification, reduce land degradation, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world, recalls with appreciation the voluntary land degradation neutrality target-setting programme consistent with the Convention and the work of the secretariat of the Convention and partners to assist parties to the Convention in carrying out voluntary target-setting activities, and in this respect reiterates its invitation to parties to the Convention that have not yet subscribed to the programme to do so;

11. *Recognizes* that sustainable land management, ecosystem-based approaches or nature-based solutions constitute promising options to evaluate and consider in connection with sequestering carbon and enhancing the resilience of people and ecosystems affected by desertification, land degradation and drought, as well as the adverse effects of climate change;

12. *Also recognizes* the importance of applying new and innovative technologies and enabling policies and approaches, as well as sharing best practices, in combating desertification, land degradation and drought, and requests

[259] A/77/215, sect. II.

[260] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[261] Resolution 70/1.

the Secretary-General to continue to identify, as appropriate, those technologies, enabling policies and best practices in his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Affirms* that combating desertification, land degradation and drought and achieving land degradation neutrality through, inter alia, land conservation, protection and restoration, sustainable land management, degraded soil and terrestrial ecosystems restoration, sustainable afforestation and reforestation, which have emerged as a pathway to accelerating progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, will also contribute, among others, to safeguarding livelihoods, preventing and preparing for future pandemics and achieving a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, and underlines the importance of integrating land conservation, protection and restoration, sustainable land management and degraded soil and terrestrial ecosystems restoration into post-COVID-19 recovery efforts, with particular emphasis on improving the livelihoods of the poorest, including rural communities, and people in vulnerable situations;

14. *Encourages* the entities of the United Nations system, when designing and implementing their programmes and projects, to take into account the role of land degradation neutrality as a potential accelerator to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

15. *Underlines* the importance of comprehensive reporting, follow-up and review at the global, national and regional levels, as appropriate, in order to track progress in the implementation of the Convention;

16. *Reiterates* the invitation to parties to the Convention to take measures to ensure, as appropriate, that their relevant institutions integrate drought risk management, sustainable livestock and agricultural policies, drought forecasting work, sustainable water management and climate information and climate change impact assessments into relevant policymaking processes and initiatives;

17. *Reiterates its invitation* to the parties to the Convention to provide the Executive Secretary of the Convention with full support in the fulfilment of his mandate and in promoting the implementation of the Convention;

18. *Stresses* the urgent need to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events, and in this regard urges Member States to continue to engage in adaptation planning processes and to enhance cooperation in disaster risk reduction;

19. *Invites* the United Nations Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms, which was formed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the senior officials of the Environment Management Group, in September 2018, and other relevant United Nations entities to continue their collaboration to assist affected country parties in developing and implementing national and regional policies on sand and dust storms;

20. *Recognizes* that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls remain a crucial contribution to the effective implementation of the Convention, including its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework, and to the achievement of the Goals of the 2030 Agenda, stresses the importance of parties to the Convention and partners pursuing the equal participation of women and men in planning, decision-making and implementation at all levels and further achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, as well as women's full, equal, effective and meaningful participation in desertification, land degradation and drought-related policies and activities, and also stresses the importance of the effective implementation of the four priority thematic areas of the Gender Action Plan adopted by the parties to the Convention;

21. *Reiterates* the invitation to the secretariat and the Global Mechanism of the Convention to continue to collaborate and build partnerships with the secretariats of the other Rio conventions, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), other United Nations entities, international organizations and other relevant organizations to explore further ways of strengthening awareness-raising, improving the Gender Action Plan and developing further tools and guidelines for the use of parties in the thematic areas of the Gender Action Plan and the gender-responsive implementation of the Convention;

22. *Recalls* the invitation to parties to the Convention to legally recognize rights to equal use and ownership of land for women and the enhancement of women's equal access to land and land tenure security, as well as the promotion of gender-sensitive measures to combat desertification, land degradation and drought and achieve land degradation neutrality, taking into account the national context, and in this context notes the Abidjan Declaration on Achieving Gender Equality for Successful Land Restoration, which promotes all measures necessary to identify and eliminate all forms of discrimination against women, with particular attention to the rights of older women, widows, women with disabilities and young women;

23. *Encourages* parties to the Convention to follow the principles of implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security[262] in the implementation of activities to combat desertification, land degradation and drought;

24. *Encourages* the public and private sectors to continue to invest in developing, adapting and scaling up the application of technologies, enabling policies, methods and tools to combat desertification, land degradation and drought in different regions, and to boost knowledge exchange, including of traditional knowledge with the consent of the knowledge holders, capacity-building and sharing of technologies on mutually agreed terms;

25. *Encourages* parties to the Convention to continue to promote the prevention of desertification, land degradation and drought with an integrated landscape approach by sustainably managing land, avoiding practices that degrade land and rehabilitating and restoring already degraded land;

26. *Encourages* developed countries party to the Convention and other relevant stakeholders to actively support the efforts of developing countries party to the Convention in promoting sustainable land management practices and in seeking to achieve a land degradation-neutral world by providing substantial financial resources from all sources facilitated access to appropriate technology on mutually agreed terms and other forms of support, including through capacity-building measures;

27. *Recognizes* the benefits gained from cooperation through the sharing of climate and weather information, forecasting and early warning systems related to desertification, land degradation and drought, while also taking account of sand and dust storms, at the global, regional and subregional levels, and in this regard likewise recognizes the need for further cooperation between parties to the Convention and relevant organizations in the sharing of related information, forecasting and early warning systems;

28. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to harness opportunities for leveraging synergies among the Convention on Biological Diversity,[263] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, as well as the 2030 Agenda, and in this respect welcomes the ongoing efforts to strengthen synergies among the secretariats of the aforementioned conventions;

29. *Welcomes* the convening and takes note of the outcome of the High-level Dialogue on Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought convened by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, which mapped the way forward in view of the end of the United Nations Decade for Deserts and the Fight against Desertification and the beginning of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, as well as the convening of the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit, underlines the importance of combating desertification and water scarcity and restoring degraded lands to ensure sustainable food production during the COVID-19 recovery period and recognizes the critical role that healthy land has in the global economy, calls for measures to explore and promote consumption and production patterns that conserve and protect land, advance land degradation neutrality and promote the conservation, protection, sustainable management and restoration of forests, taking note, inter alia, of the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, and welcomes the convening of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022;

30. *Notes with appreciation* the financial contributions that have been made by Member States and other donors towards the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund, and invites Member States and other donors to make further contributions to the Land Degradation Neutrality Fund and the drought initiative of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

31. *Decides* to include, in the United Nations calendar of conferences and meetings for the year 2023 and subsequent years, the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and each of its subsidiary bodies,

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[262] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

[263] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make provisions for those sessions in the proposed programme budgets;

32. *Acknowledges* the commitment of the parties to the Convention to boost drought resilience by identifying the expansion of arid, semi-arid, dry sub-humid areas and drylands, improving national policies and early warning systems linked to early action, learning and sharing knowledge, building partnerships and coordinating action, and mobilizing drought finance to support a shift from reactive to proactive drought management, and welcomes the announcement by the Secretary-General of the Early Warnings for All initiative to ensure that every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years;

33. *Takes note* of decision 22/COP.15,[264] which invites the parties to the Convention to promote sustainable territorial development, including multi-level governance and planning mechanisms, as appropriate, to strengthen urban-rural linkages, address desertification/land degradation and drought, including sand and dust storms, and create social and economic opportunities that reduce forced migration and displacement and increase rural resilience and livelihood stability;

34. *Acknowledges* the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth session with respect to promoting decent land-based jobs for youth and land-based youth entrepreneurship and strengthening youth participation in the processes relating to the Convention;

35. *Reaffirms* the continuation, for a further five-year period, of the current institutional linkage and related administrative arrangements with the United Nations Secretariat, to be reviewed by both the General Assembly and the Conference of the Parties no later than 31 December 2026;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa".

RESOLUTION 77/167

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.6, para. 10)[265]

77/167. Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/207 of 17 December 2021 and its previous resolutions relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[266]

Reaffirming the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, including the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[267] and its principles, the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[268] and, inter alia, the commitments concerning biodiversity contained therein, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[269] the

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[264] See ICCD/COP(15)/23/Add.1.

[265] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[266] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[267] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[268] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[269] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[270] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[271] and the outcome document of the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals convened by the President of the General Assembly,[272]

Reaffirming also 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 further 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 the Paris Agreement,[273] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[274] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming also the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[275] and its vision for cities and human settlements that protect, conserve, restore and promote their ecosystems, water, natural habitats and biodiversity and minimize their environmental impact,

Recalling the Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General on 23 September 2019, recalling also the multi-partner initiatives and commitments presented during the Summit, and welcoming the convening of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022,

Urging the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the agreed intergovernmentally negotiated outcomes and decisions of the subsequent United Nations Climate Change Conferences,

Recalling the convening of the summit on biodiversity on 30 September 2020, at the level of Heads of State and Government, in order to highlight the urgency of action at the highest levels in support of an ambitious, balanced, practical, effective, robust and transformative post-2020 global biodiversity framework that contributes to the 2030 Agenda and places the global community on a path towards realizing the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, "Living in harmony with nature",

Taking note with appreciation of the interactive dialogue on Harmony with Nature convened by the President of the General Assembly under the overall theme "Harmony with nature and biodiversity: contributions of ecological economics and Earth-centered law" on the implementation of education and biodiversity conservation in harmony with nature, held on 22 April 2022, in commemoration of International Mother Earth Day,

Recalling its resolution 76/300 of 28 July 2022 on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment,

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[270] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[271] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[272] Resolution 68/6.

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

[274] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[275] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recalling also its resolutions 71/312 of 6 July 2017 and 76/296 of 21 July 2022, in which it endorsed the declarations adopted by the first and second United Nations Conferences to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017 and in Lisbon from 27 June to 1 July 2022, respectively, and in this regard reaffirming the important role of the declarations in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and sustainably use our oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, as well as to halt and reverse the decline in the health and productivity of our ocean and its ecosystems and to protect and restore its resilience and ecological integrity, and recognizing the important contributions of the dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of those Conferences to the effective and timely implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,

Taking note of the voluntary commitments by more than 100 Member States to conserve or protect at least 30 per cent of the world's land by 2030 and at least 30 per cent of the global ocean within marine protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures by 2030, which can further contribute to the protection of biodiversity,

Recalling its resolution 65/161 of 20 December 2010, in which it declared 2011–2020 the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, and recalling its resolution 73/284 of 1 March 2019, in which it proclaimed 2021–2030 the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, with the aim of supporting and scaling up efforts to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide and raise awareness of the importance of successful ecosystem restoration,

Recalling the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,[276] and recognizing that forests are home to an estimated 80 per cent of all terrestrial species and that forests, including boreal, temperate and tropical, contribute substantially to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to the conservation of biodiversity,

Recalling also the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, which highlighted that none of the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets were fully achieved, although six were partially achieved (targets 9, 11, 16, 17, 19 and 20),

Noting with concern that the Sustainable Development Goal targets with a 2020 deadline have not been fully achieved,

Recognizing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and other pandemics underscore the need to conserve, restore and sustainably use biodiversity, on land and below water, to reduce the risk of the economic, social and environmental impacts of disasters and future pandemic outbreaks, many of which are exacerbated by biodiversity loss, the increased scale of poaching and the illegal use of and trade in wildlife and wildlife products, desertification, land degradation and drought, climate change and plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and emphasizing the need to support and invest at all levels, to enhance efforts to build resilience, to reduce the likelihood of zoonotic infections and to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on biological diversity in order to achieve the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and to achieve a sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery,

Recalling that the objectives of the Convention, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources, by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding,

Recognizing that the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention is crucial for sustainable development, poverty eradication, food security and the improvement of human health and well-being and a major factor underpinning the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, States have the sovereign right to exploit their own resources pursuant to their own environmental policies and the

[276] See resolution 71/285.

responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Reaffirming also the intrinsic value of biological diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity, and its critical role in maintaining ecosystems that provide essential services, which are critical foundations for sustainable development and human health and well-being,

Encouraging parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to integrate nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches and other management and conservation approaches, in line with resolution 5/5 of 7 March 2022 of the United Nations Environment Assembly,[277] to climate change adaptation and mitigation and disaster risk reduction into their strategic planning, as appropriate, across sectors,

Recognizing that the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of Indigenous Peoples and local communities that are relevant to the Convention make a key contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and that their wider application can support social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

Recalling the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its thirteenth and fourteenth meetings, on article 8 (j) and related provisions,[278] decision CBD/CP/MOP/VIII/19[279] and decision CBD/NP/MOP/DEC/2/7,[280] as well as of the work done by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8 (j) and related provisions,

Recalling also the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[281] and the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,[282]

Recognizing the vital role that women play in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, reaffirming the need for their full, equal, effective and meaningful participation at all levels of policymaking and implementation for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, as well as ecosystem restoration, recognizing the contribution of the 2015–2020 Gender Plan of Action under the Convention on Biological Diversity[283] to the integration of a gender perspective and to promoting gender equality in the implementation of the Convention, and looking forward to the post-2020 Gender Plan of Action, to be adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Recognizing also the important role of other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, regional agreements and initiatives in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention on Wetlands), held in Wuhan, China, and Geneva from 5 to 13 November 2022, the sixty-seventh meeting of the International Whaling Commission, held in Florianópolis, Brazil, from 10 to 14 September 2018, the sixty-eighth meeting of the International Whaling Commission, held from 13 to 21 October 2022 in Portorož, Slovenia, the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, held in Geneva from 17 to 28 August 2019, the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, held in Gandhinagar, India, from 15 to 22 February 2020, the forty-fourth session of the World Heritage Committee, held in Fuzhou, China, from 16 to 31 July 2021, the fifteenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in relation to the International Plant Protection Convention,

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[277] UNEP/EA.5/Res.5.

[278] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/25, decisions XIII/18 and 14/12, 14/13, 14/14, 14/15, 14/16 and 14/17 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

[279] Adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its eighth meeting (see United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/CP/MOP/8/17).

[280] Adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization at its second meeting (see United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/NP/MOP/2/13).

[281] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[282] Resolution 69/2.

[283] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I, decision XII/7, annex.

held virtually in March and April 2021, the ninth session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, held in New Delhi from 19 to 24 September 2022, and the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, held in Panama City from 14 to 25 November 2022, and noting regional agreements and initiatives, such as the Revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, the Great Green Wall initiative in Africa, the Adaptation of African Agriculture initiative, the first Middle East Green Initiative summit, held in Riyadh on 25 October 2021, the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement), held in Santiago from 20 to 22 April 2022, the tenth session of the Conference of Parties to the Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean Region, held on 23 and 24 November 2021, and the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, signed on 2 November 2021,

Recognizing further the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and in ensuring that no species entering into international trade is threatened with extinction, recognizing also the economic, social and environmental impacts of poaching and trafficking in wildlife,

Recognizing the importance of the outcomes of the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, held in Nairobi from 28 February to 2 March 2022, and the first special session of the United Nations Environment Assembly to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme, held in Nairobi on 3 and 4 March 2022, and recognizing also the importance of the international meeting entitled "Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity", held in Stockholm on 2 and 3 June 2022, at which the global interconnectedness of the environment was emphasized,

Welcoming the decision by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session, in resolution 5/14 of 2 March 2022,[284] to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and welcoming also the decision taken by the Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session to strengthen global action on the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution, in line with Environment Assembly resolutions 5/7 and 5/8 of 2 March 2022,[285]

Noting the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, at its tenth meeting, of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[286] the objective of which is the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding, and acknowledging the role of access to genetic resources and equitable benefit-sharing arising from their utilization in contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability, and thereby to the achievement of sustainable development,

Noting also that 195 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Convention and that 131 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Nagoya Protocol, noting further that 172 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity[287] and that 48 States and 1 regional economic integration organization are parties to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[288] and recalling the entry into force of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on 5 March 2018,

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[284] UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

[285] UNEP/EA.5/Res.7 and UNEP/EA.5/Res.8.

[286] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/1.

[287] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

[288] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/5/17, annex, decision BS-V/11.

Recalling the adoption by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention at its ninth meeting of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention,[289] as well as decision X/3, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting,[290] on the review of its implementation, and the targets for resource mobilization, under Aichi Target 20 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision XII/3,[291]

Recalling with appreciation the Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being, adopted at the high-level segment of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,[292] and the outcomes of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocols to the Convention,

Taking note with appreciation of the Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration, adopted at the high-level segment of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and the outcomes of the fourteenth meeting, and the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocols to the Convention, held in Sharm el-Sheikh from 17 to 29 November 2018, organized under the theme "Investing in biodiversity for people and planet", as well as the initiative to promote a coherent approach between the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa[293] (the Rio conventions) to address biodiversity loss, climate change and land and ecosystem degradation, and recalling the hosting by Egypt of the African Biodiversity Summit, on 13 November 2018, and the adoption of the African Ministerial Declaration on Biodiversity and the Pan African Action Agenda on Ecosystem Restoration for Increased Resilience,

Noting with concern the findings from the contribution of Working Group I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in which the Intergovernmental Panel highlights the linkages between climate change and extreme weather events and slow-onset events and their negative impacts on people and nature, and highlighting the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, droughts and heavy precipitation,

Welcoming the pre-conference of the parties organized by Colombia on 30 August 2021 to discuss priorities and expectations and raise political commitment for a post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Recognizing the need for concerted enhanced action, through planning, reporting, monitoring and review, and transformative change to adopt a post-2020 global biodiversity framework that contributes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and places the global community on a path towards realizing the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity of living in harmony with nature, and stressing that predictable, sufficient and appropriate means of implementation and resources from a variety of sources will be key for the success of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity;[294]

2. *Welcomes* the convening of the first part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as well as the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocols to the Convention, held in Kunming, China, from 11 to 15 October 2021, all under the theme proposed by the host, "Ecological civilization: building a shared future for all life on Earth", takes note of the Kunming Declaration of its high-level segment, looks forward to the second part

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[289] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/29, annex I, decision IX/11.

[290] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex.

[291] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I.

[292] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/24.

[293] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[294] A/77/215, sect. III.

of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as well as the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocols to the Convention, which will reconvene under the presidency of China in Montreal, Canada, from 7 to 19 December 2022, and recognizes that a post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be adopted is intended to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[295] and is expected to place the global community on a path towards realizing the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity;

3. *Calls upon* all parties to the Convention, United Nations entities and all other stakeholders to continue to effectively engage in the negotiations on an ambitious, balanced, practical, effective, robust and transformative post-2020 global biodiversity framework and to ensure its early, inclusive and effective implementation once it is adopted, and highlights, in this regard, that the provision of adequate and sufficient, predictable, timely and easily accessible means of implementation, particularly to developing countries, in line with the provisions of the Convention, including financial, capacity-building and development, knowledge management, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer resources, will be key for the success of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

4. *Calls for* the provision and mobilization of new and additional means of implementation from all sources to support the full implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and, in particular, the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, for adoption at the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, including by increasing the financial resources to support countries that are parties to the Convention, particularly developing countries;

5. *Urges* parties to the Convention to ensure the coherence and complementarity of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework with other existing or upcoming international processes, in particular with regard to the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other related processes, frameworks and strategies, and reiterates the invitation to the other multilateral environmental agreements, including biodiversity-related conventions and the Rio conventions, relevant international organizations and their programmes, and other relevant processes to actively participate in the development process for a post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

6. *Looks forward* to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocols to the Convention, to be held in Türkiye;

7. *Encourages* support for the Sharm el-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People, which is aimed at collecting, coordinating and celebrating actions in support of biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use, encourages all relevant stakeholders, including Indigenous Peoples and local communities and the private sector, to consider developing biodiversity commitments, and invites relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and intergovernmental organizations, where relevant, to support the implementation of the Action Agenda;

8. *Urges* parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and all other relevant stakeholders to mainstream biodiversity into COVID-19 response and recovery efforts, to fully implement and support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other international development goals, including by strengthening approaches to enhance resilience, protecting wild flora and fauna and other living species, reversing the trends in environmental degradation, through the conservation, sustainable use and restoration of ecosystems, sustainably managing water resources at all levels, preventing the retreat of mountain glaciers and permafrost thaw, sustainably managing all types of forests and halting deforestation and forest degradation, as well as by integrating the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization into relevant national decision-making, emphasizes that biodiversity and health linkages should be addressed holistically, including through a biodiversity-inclusive One Health approach, among other approaches, recalls in this regard decision 14/4 of 30 November 2018 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and resolutions 3/4 of 30 January 2018, 5/1 of 2 March 2022 and 5/6 of 7 March 2022 of the United Nations Environment Assembly,[296] and urges parties to adopt a post-2020 global biodiversity framework that contributes to the 2030 Agenda and places the global community on a path towards realizing the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity of living in harmony with nature;

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[295] Resolution 70/1.

[296] UNEP/EA.3/Res.4, UNEP/EA.5/Res.1 and UNEP/EA.5/Res.6.

9. *Notes* that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing inequalities and challenges for the implementation of the Convention and further highlighted that the loss and degradation of biodiversity increases the risk of zoonotic disease spillover from wildlife to people and that biodiversity should continue to be mainstreamed in COVID-19 recovery plans and in plans aimed at reducing the risk of future pandemics, emphasizes the importance of a One Health approach and other holistic approaches that deliver multiple benefits to the health and well-being of people and planet, that would further strengthen the capacity to address biodiversity loss, prevent and respond to the emergence of diseases, including zoonotic infections, and future pandemics, and contribute to reducing the adverse impacts of climate change, calls for transformative actions from all relevant stakeholders and adequate and sufficient means of implementation, particularly for developing countries, to ensure the full implementation of the Convention to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, and welcomes the financial commitments and initiatives that have been announced from governments, organizations and the private sector that contribute to biodiversity conservation, restoration and sustainable use and keep the political momentum towards the adoption of an ambitious, balanced, practical, effective, robust and transformative post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

10. *Notes with concern* the limited progress made in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, namely, the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources;

11. *Recalls with appreciation* the entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity on 12 October 2014, and notes with particular concern the limited progress made in the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol;

12. *Notes* the limited progress made in mainstreaming article 8 (j) of the Convention and related provisions into various areas of work under the Convention, takes note with appreciation of decision 14/17 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention to consider the development of a fully integrated programme of work on article 8 (j) and related provisions within a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, to allow for the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in the work of the Convention, and in this regard invites the secretariat of the Convention, through the Secretary-General, to report on the progress made by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8 (j) and related provisions when reporting on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly;

13. *Highlights* the importance of parties raising high-level political engagement for the achievement of the objectives of the Convention and the related Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda;

14. *Recalls* the commitments made by the parties at the high-level segment of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and through the decisions adopted, which support the implementation of the current Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the development of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, inter alia, to:

(a) Accelerating efforts to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including by implementing the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, as appropriate, and by providing and mobilizing international and national resources, thereby contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

(b) Supporting the development and implementation of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, building on the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the lessons learned from the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and aligned with the 2030 Agenda, with a level of ambition and practicality that will facilitate the transformational changes needed to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, as noted in the conclusions of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;

(c) Promoting, prior to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, voluntary biodiversity contributions by parties and other actors towards achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity;

(d) Engaging Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women, youth, civil society, local governments and authorities, academia, the business and financial sectors and other relevant stakeholders to support action towards the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity and to provide momentum for the implementation of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

15. *Encourages* the respective parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to take concrete measures towards achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Protocols thereto, the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol, requests the parties, in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to coherently and efficiently implement the obligations and commitments under the Convention and the Protocols, and in this regard emphasizes the need to comprehensively address at all levels the difficulties that may impede their implementation;

16. *Reaffirms* the importance of continuing to pursue more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, and calls upon parties and stakeholders to strengthen international cooperation measures for the fulfilment of obligations contained in the Convention;

17. *Invites* all parties, relevant departments of the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the regional commissions to continue to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention;

18. *Notes* the contribution of the United Nations Environment Management Group, chaired by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, to the development and implementation of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, for adoption at the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

19. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming biodiversity for achieving the objectives of the Convention, and the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity in order to achieve the transformational change required throughout societies and economies, including changes in behaviour and decision-making at all levels, and urges all relevant stakeholders to mainstream biodiversity in all relevant sectors;

20. *Calls upon* Governments and all stakeholders to take appropriate measures to mainstream consideration of the socioeconomic impacts and benefits of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components, as well as ecosystems that provide essential services, into relevant programmes and policies at all levels, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities;

21. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming biodiversity in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda as part of national implementation plans for the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular all biodiversity-related Goals and targets;

22. *Recognizes* the importance of the effective and successful work being undertaken by the intergovernmental conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction and calls upon participating delegations to reach an ambitious agreement without delay, recognizing the potential contribution of its outcomes to the advancement of Sustainable Development Goal 14, emphasizes the importance of ending illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and welcomes the Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies reached at the Twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization;

23. *Recognizes also* that integrating biodiversity considerations into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, plans and programmes at all levels is critical for harnessing the benefits of enhanced synergies and policy coherence;

24. *Notes* the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change established under the Convention on Biological Diversity, which highlights that biodiversity contributes to and enhances climate mitigation and adaptation and that continued climate change will have predominantly adverse and often irreversible impacts on many ecosystems and their functions and services, with significant negative social, cultural and economic consequences;

25. *Welcomes* the decisions of the parties to the Convention to better mainstream biodiversity and to take specific actions tailored to national needs and circumstances, and in line with other relevant international agreements, including in key sectors, such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries and tourism, as well as health, energy, mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and processing sectors, which are crucial for addressing biodiversity loss, bearing in mind the impact of these sectors on biodiversity;

26. *Recognizes* that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can significantly contribute to disaster risk reduction and to reducing the adverse impacts of climate change, including by adding resilience to fragile ecosystems and making them less vulnerable;

27. *Urges* the parties to the Convention to facilitate the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, for the effective implementation of the Convention in accordance with article 16 and other relevant provisions of the Convention, in this regard takes note of the strategy for the practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation, as well as of decision XI/2, entitled "Review of progress in implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and related capacity-building support to parties",[297] and recalls the relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting in this regard;[298]

28. *Requests* the continuation of efforts made by the secretariat of the Convention, parties to the Convention and the Global Environment Facility, as the financial mechanism of the Convention, in conjunction with United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, as well as other entities, in organizing capacity-building workshops to support countries in the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, with a view to enhancing capacity and addressing the need for human, technical and financial resources to implement the Convention and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, at the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, in particular for developing countries;

29. *Encourages* parties to promote the mainstreaming of gender considerations taking into account the 2015–2020 Gender Plan of Action under the Convention on Biological Diversity, in developing, implementing and revising their national and, where appropriate, regional and subnational biodiversity strategies and action plans and equivalent instruments in implementing the three objectives of the Convention, recognizes the need to enhance cooperation on capacity-building in order to support parties in this process, looks forward to the post-2020 Gender Plan of Action, to be adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and emphasizes the importance of integrating a gender perspective into the process of developing a post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

30. *Recognizes* that parties to the Convention have reiterated that resources, financial, human and technical, need to be provided and mobilized from all sources, with a view to the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and a post-2020 global biodiversity framework to follow it, stresses the need for further consideration of the evaluation of all resources mobilized in terms of the biodiversity outcomes achieved, and in this regard welcomes decision XII/3,[299] adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its twelfth meeting, on an overall substantial increase in total biodiversity-related funding for the implementation of the Strategic Plan from a variety of sources, including national and international resource mobilization, international cooperation and the exploration of new and innovative financial mechanisms, as appropriate, and notes that the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties affirmed that resource mobilization will be an integral part of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework and initiated preparations of this resource mobilization component at an early stage and in full coherence and coordination with the overall process of developing a post-2020 framework;

31. *Invites* countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention;

32. *Invites* parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Nagoya Protocol, and invites the Executive Secretary of the Convention and the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate as the financial mechanism of the Convention, in collaboration with relevant organizations, to continue to support capacity-building and development activities to support the ratification and implementation of the Protocol;

33. *Also invites* parties to the Convention to consider, as appropriate, ratifying or acceding to the Cartagena Protocol;

34. *Invites* parties to the Cartagena Protocol to consider, as appropriate, ratifying or acceding to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

35. *Notes with profound concern* the findings of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*, and stresses the urgent need to halt the global decline of biodiversity, which is unprecedented in human history, including its main

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[297] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/35, annex I.

[298] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I.

[299] See United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/29, sect. I.

indirect and direct drivers, in particular changes in land and sea use, direct exploitation of organisms, climate change, pollution and invasion of alien species;

36. *Notes* the findings of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in its assessment report on the diverse values and valuation of nature, and stresses that achieving a sustainable and just future requires institutions that enable a recognition and integration of the diverse values of nature and nature's contributions to people, and that the transformative change needed to address the global biodiversity crisis relies on shifting away from predominant values that currently overemphasize short-term and individual material gains to nurturing sustainability-aligned values across society;

37. *Takes note* of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services assessment report on the sustainable use of wild species;

38. *Notes* that increasing investments in nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches and other management and conservation approaches, in line with resolution 5/5 of the United Nations Environment Assembly, has the potential to cost-effectively support biodiversity conservation, restoration and its sustainable use, to help advance climate mitigation and adaptation and to reduce adverse impacts of climate change and to slow, halt and even reverse some aspects of biodiversity and ecosystem loss, and therefore invites all relevant stakeholders to consider the opportunities it presents;

39. *Takes note with concern* of the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its special reports entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C*, *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* and *Climate Change and Land: An IPCC Special Report on Climate Change, Desertification, Land Degradation, Sustainable Land Management, Food Security, and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Terrestrial Ecosystems*;

40. *Stresses* the importance of the engagement of the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, as well as Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women and youth, in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and in the achievement of the biodiversity targets, invites them to align their practices more explicitly with the objectives of the Convention, including through partnerships, in accordance with national legislation, circumstances and priorities, in this regard stresses the importance of the ongoing work of the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity, and notes other related and complementary initiatives;

41. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Joint Liaison Group of the secretariats and offices of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, acknowledges the importance of improving coherence in the implementation of those conventions, recognizes the importance of enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions and agreements, without prejudice to their specific objectives, in this regard notes the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly, as reflected in its resolution 2/17 of 27 May 2016,[300] and the outcomes of its fourth session, held in Nairobi from 11 to 15 March 2019,[301] in particular its ministerial declaration, and encourages the conferences of the parties to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements to consider strengthening efforts in this regard, taking into account relevant experiences and bearing in mind their respective independent legal status and mandates;

42. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-eighth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, progress in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

[300] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

[301] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/74/25), annex I.

RESOLUTION 77/168

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.7, para. 8)[302]

77/168. Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the mandate contained in its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it established the United Nations Environment Programme, and other relevant resolutions that reinforce its mandate, as well as the 1997 Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme of 7 February 1997,[303] the Malmö Ministerial Declaration of 31 May 2000[304] and the Nusa Dua Declaration of 26 February 2010,[305]

Reaffirming also its commitment to strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the leading global environmental authority that sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the coherent implementation of the environmental dimension of sustainable development within the United Nations system and serves as an authoritative advocate for the global environment, and supporting continuous strengthening of intergovernmental oversight and the accountability of the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme in the implementation of the Programme's mandate, in line with Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme decision 27/2 of 22 February 2013,[306]

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, entitled "The future we want",[307] and noting the follow-up on paragraph 88, subparagraphs (a) to (h), of the outcome document, including through General Assembly resolution 67/213 of 21 December 2012,

Recalling also the establishment of universal membership in the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as other measures to strengthen its governance and its responsiveness and accountability to Member States, the attendant change of its designation to the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme and the evolution in the periodicity of its sessions,

Recalling further its resolutions 68/215 of 20 December 2013, 69/223 of 19 December 2014, 71/231 of 21 December 2016, 73/260 of 22 December 2018, 74/222 of 19 December 2019 and 76/208 of 17 December 2021,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[308] and its principles,

Taking into account Agenda 21[309] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[310]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome[311] and the outcome document of the special event of the General Assembly to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,[312]

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[302] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[303] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[304] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/55/25), annex I, decision SS.VI/1, annex.

[305] Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/65/25), annex I, decision SS.XI/9.

[306] UNEP/GC.27/17, annex I.

[307] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[308] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[309] Ibid., annex II.

[310] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[311] Resolution 60/1.

[312] Resolution 68/6.

Recalling also the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building,[313]

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further the Paris Agreement[314] and its early entry into force, and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[315] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the indispensable role of the United Nations Environment Assembly within the United Nations system as the highest-level intergovernmental decision-making body with universal membership for enhancing progress in the comprehensive implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda, in an integrated and balanced manner within the United Nations system,

Recognizing the key role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting and strengthening the science-policy interface in order to support intergovernmental debate, negotiations and deliberations and policy decisions relating to international environmental law and governance, and promote the identification and sharing of the best available science to support effective environmental action and policymaking,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other relevant major intergovernmental outcomes of United Nations conferences and summits in economic, social and environmental fields,

Noting with profound concern the findings of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services*, and stressing the urgent need to halt the global decline of biodiversity, which is unprecedented in human history, including its main indirect and direct drivers, in particular changes in land and sea use, direct exploitation of organisms, climate change, invasive alien species and pollution,

Welcoming the holding of the first part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in Kunming, China, from 11 to 15 October 2021, under the theme proposed by the host, "Ecological civilization: building a shared future for all life on Earth", and looking forward to the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held from 7 to 19 December 2022, and the adoption of an ambitious, balanced, practical, effective, robust and transformative post-2020 global biodiversity framework that contributes to the 2030 Agenda,

Welcoming also the holding of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022,

Recalling the outcomes of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the

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[313] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1 and UNEP/GC.23/6/Add.1/Corr.1, annex.

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

[315] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, as well as the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, and urging their full implementation,

Recognizing the importance of the international meeting entitled "Stockholm+50: a healthy planet for the prosperity of all – our responsibility, our opportunity", held in Stockholm on 2 and 3 June 2022,

Taking note of the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to addressing the challenge of, inter alia, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, within its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and stakeholders,

Committed to strengthening international environmental governance within the context of the institutional framework for sustainable development in order to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as well as coordination within the United Nations system,

Recalling its resolution 76/300 of 28 July 2022, entitled "The human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment",

Committed to enhancing the voice of the United Nations Environment Programme and its ability to fulfil its coordination mandate within the United Nations system by strengthening its engagement in key United Nations coordination bodies and empowering it to lead efforts to formulate United Nations system-wide strategies on the environment,

Recognizing the important contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, which met under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in New York in 2022 and undertook an in-depth review of progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reiterating the need for secure, stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and, in accordance with resolution 2997 (XXVII), underlining the need to consider the adequate reflection of all the administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget, as well as the need to realize efficiency gains,

Reaffirming the commitments, as contained in the ministerial outcome document of the first session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, held in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014,[316] inter alia, to ensure the full integration of the environmental dimension, especially throughout the sustainable development agenda, acknowledging that a healthy environment is an essential requirement and key enabler for sustainable development,

Reiterating the need to develop and expand partnerships, including between Governments, the private sector, academia, relevant United Nations entities and programmes, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, civil society and individuals,

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,

Welcoming the important role of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, as the permanent African ministerial authority on environment and sustainable development for Africa, in supporting African countries to achieve global environmental goals, particularly in the areas of energy, pollution, biodiversity, climate change, just transitions, and technology transfer and capacity-building,

[316] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/69/25), annex, resolution 1/1.

Recognizing the relevant work of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization in areas such as Indigenous health, satellite forest monitoring, water resources management, and conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, through projects in the Amazon Basin that are aimed at addressing the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the resumed fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi from 28 February to 2 March 2022, and the first special session of the United Nations Environment Assembly for the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme, held in Nairobi on 3 and 4 March 2022, also welcomes the report on the resumed session and the resolutions and decisions contained therein,[317] and calls for their full implementation;

2. *Looks forward* to the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly, to be held in Nairobi from 26 February to 1 March 2024 and to be chaired by Morocco, and recommends the participation of the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council at the sixth session, in line with the spirit of integration and universality of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[318]

3. *Welcomes* the decision by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session, in its resolution 5/14 of 2 March 2022,[319] to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, which could include both binding and voluntary approaches, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic, taking into account, among other things, the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as well as national circumstances and capabilities, underscores the importance of securing an ambitious international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, while acknowledging that some legal obligations arising out of a new instrument will require capacity-building and technical and financial assistance in order to be effectively implemented by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and welcomes the commitment made by ministers during the 2022 high-level political forum on sustainable development to actively follow up on the decision by engaging in the intergovernmental negotiating committee with the ambition of completing its work by the end of 2024;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session, in its resolution 5/8 of 2 March 2022,[320] to establish a science-policy panel to contribute further to the sound management of chemicals and waste and to prevent pollution, and further welcomes resolution 5/11 of 2 March 2022 of the United Nations Environment Assembly, entitled "Enhancing circular economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production";[321]

5. *Further welcomes* the adoption of resolution 5/5 of 2 March 2022, entitled "Nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development",[322] which provides a multilaterally agreed definition of nature-based solutions as actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience and biodiversity benefits, and recalls that this concept is cognizant of and in harmony with the concept of ecosystem-based approaches identified under the Convention on Biological Diversity[323] and other management and conservation approaches carried out under existing national policy and legislative frameworks and established under relevant multilateral environmental agreements;

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[317] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/77/25).

[318] Resolution 70/1.

[319] UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

[320] UNEP/EA.5/Res.8.

[321] UNEP/EA.5/Res.11.

[322] UNEP/EA.5/Res.5.

[323] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

6. *Welcomes* the adoption of resolution 5/12 of 2 March 2022, entitled "Environmental aspects of minerals and metals management";[324]

7. *Also welcomes* the adoption of resolution 5/13 of 2 March 2022, entitled "Due regard to the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations";[325]

8. *Reiterates* the ministerial declaration entitled "Strengthening actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals",[326] adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session, in which it reaffirms that a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is important for the enjoyment of human rights and for sustainable development in all its dimensions, in an integrated and balanced manner, and that the well-being of humanity depends on nature and hence on our ability to sustainably use, restore and protect the ecosystem functions and services that it provides for poverty eradication, resilience, our health, our economies and ultimately our existence;

9. *Welcomes* the political declaration adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its first special session for the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Environment Programme[327] and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 73/333 of 30 August 2019, and acknowledges the 50-year contribution of the Programme in supporting a worldwide effort to overcome the planet's biggest environmental challenges;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of enhanced coordination within the United Nations system to promote a balanced integration of the environmental, economic and social dimensions of sustainable development;

11. *Reiterates* the importance for the United Nations Environment Programme, in accordance with its mandate, working with the wider United Nations development system, to adopt and mainstream a more climate- and environment-responsive approach into its programmes and strategic plans, where appropriate, as well as in cooperation frameworks, or equivalent planning frameworks, and its policy advice to programme countries, in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs, including supporting programme countries that are parties to the Paris Agreement in its implementation;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to mainstream the environmental dimension of sustainable development into national policies, strategies and planning, including but not limited to supporting the capacity-building of relevant authorities, taking into account national circumstances, in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda;

13. *Encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to advance transformative and systemic changes and policies that address several environmental, economic and social challenges simultaneously, rechannelling financial flows to serve the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals through innovative, holistic approaches that truly value nature;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to pursue the ambition to support environmental protection and the means of its implementation, including through global partnerships and by enabling a sustainable future for our planet and addressing urgent social, economic and environmental challenges;

15. *Welcomes* the continued commitment of the United Nations Environment Assembly to contributing to the effective implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda in an integrated manner, as reflected in its resolutions 2/5 of 27 May 2016[328] and 3/3 of 6 December 2017[329] on the contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

16. *Commends* the President and the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council for supporting and facilitating the effective integration of the contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly into the

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[324] UNEP/EA.5/Res.12.

[325] UNEP/EA.5/Res.13.

[326] UNEP/EA.5/HLS.1.

[327] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25*, addendum (A/77/25/Add.1), annex.

[328] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

[329] UNEP/EA.3/Res.3.

preparation, work and proceedings of, and the participation of the President of the Environment Assembly in, the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;

17. *Encourages* the President of the United Nations Environment Assembly to continue to convey the main messages agreed upon by the Environment Assembly at its sessions during the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, as appropriate, taking into account the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda, as well as General Assembly resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 and 70/299 of 29 July 2016;

18. *Welcomes* the contributions of the United Nations Environment Assembly to the lead-up and inputs to, and meetings of, the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in 2022, and looks forward to further contributions to the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in 2023;

19. *Reiterates* that capacity-building and technology support for developing countries in environment-related fields are important components of the work of the United Nations Environment Programme, and in this regard calls for the continued and focused implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building adopted by the Programme;

20. *Welcomes* the adoption of resolution 5/3 of 2 March 2022,[330] in which the United Nations Environment Assembly reaffirmed that the objective of the Global Environment Outlook process was to keep the world environmental situation under review in order to periodically inform and support collective and individual action by Member States and by stakeholders, while strengthening the science-policy interface of the United Nations Environment Programme, and requested the Executive Director to undertake the preparation of the seventh edition of the Global Environment Outlook as an intergovernmental expert-led assessment;

21. *Recognizes* the devastating global effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has created new and serious health, socioeconomic and environmental challenges, compounded existing ones, especially in developing countries, and undermined our common efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve the 2030 Agenda, and urges support for a sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery that protects the planet, stimulates sustainable consumption and production patterns, including through sustainable economic models and the promotion of life cycle approaches, promotes the One Health approach, among other holistic approaches, revitalizes our economies and creates decent and sustainable jobs and makes real progress in eradicating poverty, while enhancing our future resilience to similar challenges;

22. *Underlines* the importance of universal membership in the governing body of the United Nations Environment Programme, and invites all Member States and members of specialized agencies that have not yet done so to become accredited to the United Nations Environment Programme;

23. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure the sustainability, predictability and stability of the funding of the United Nations Environment Programme governing body, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to make proposals, as appropriate, and takes note of the invitation to consider the level of regular-budget funding required to help the United Nations Environment Programme to fulfil its mandate, taking into account the Programme's approved work programme and General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII);

24. *Recalls* the request by the United Nations Environment Assembly to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to provide options to secure the participation of developing countries in the Environment Assembly;[331]

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme".

[330] UNEP/EA.5/Res.3.

[331] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/69/25), annex, resolution 1/15.

RESOLUTION 77/169

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.8, para. 8)[332]

77/169. Harmony with Nature

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[333] Agenda 21,[334] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[335] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[336] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[337]

Recalling its resolutions 64/196 of 21 December 2009, 65/164 of 20 December 2010, 66/204 of 22 December 2011, 67/214 of 21 December 2012, 68/216 of 20 December 2013, 69/224 of 19 December 2014, 70/208 of 22 December 2015, 71/232 of 21 December 2016, 72/223 of 20 December 2017, 73/235 of 20 December 2018, 74/224 of 19 December 2019 and 75/220 of 21 December 2020 on Harmony with Nature,

Recalling also its resolution 63/278 of 22 April 2009, by which it designated 22 April as International Mother Earth Day, and recognizing its importance,

Recalling further the 1982 World Charter for Nature,[338]

Noting the Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth, hosted by the Plurinational State of Bolivia in Cochabamba from 20 to 22 April 2010,[339]

Recognizing that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our home and that "Mother Earth" is a common expression in a number of countries and regions, which reflects the interdependence that exists among human beings, other living species and the planet we all inhabit,

Recognizing also that some countries recognize the rights of nature or Mother Earth in the context of the promotion of sustainable development, and expressing the conviction that, in order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[340]

Reaffirming 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,

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[332] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[333] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992,* vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[334] Ibid., annex II.

[335] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[336] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[337] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[338] Resolution 37/7, annex.

[339] See A/64/777, annexes I and II.

[340] Resolution 66/288, annex.

Reaffirming also 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 further the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[341] and recognizing that its implementation can contribute to achieving environmental sustainability by protecting ecosystems and biodiversity, including by adopting healthy lifestyles in harmony with nature,

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement,[342] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[343] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Noting the importance of nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches and other management and conservation approaches, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/5 of 2 March 2022,[344] in aiming to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting with appreciation the interactive dialogues on Harmony with Nature convened by the President of the General Assembly so far, including the dialogue under the overall theme "Harmony with nature and biodiversity: contributions of ecological economics and Earth-centered law", held on 22 April 2022, in commemoration of International Mother Earth Day and to inspire citizens and societies to reconsider how they interact with the natural world in order to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in harmony with nature, and noting that some countries recognize the rights of nature in the context of the promotion of sustainable development,

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 that a number of countries consider Mother Earth the source of all life and nourishment and that these countries consider Mother Earth and humankind to be a living community of interrelated and interdependent beings,

Recalling the interactive dialogue on living in harmony with nature held on the occasion of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Cancun, Mexico, from 4 to 17 December 2016,

Noting the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans, and the protection of biodiversity, recognized by some cultures as Mother Earth, and noting also the importance for some of the concept of "climate justice", when taking action to address climate change,

Noting also that, in promoting a holistic approach to achieving sustainable development in harmony with nature, Earth system science plays a significant role, including by considering human beings as part of Nature,

Expressing concern about documented environmental degradation, more frequent and intense natural disasters and the negative impact on nature resulting from human activity, and recognizing the need to strengthen scientific

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[341] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[342] Adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21.

[343] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[344] UNEP/EA.5/Res.5.

knowledge on the effects of human activities on ecosystems, with the aim of promoting and ensuring an equitable, balanced and sustainable relationship with the Earth,

Recognizing the uneven availability of basic statistical data under the three dimensions of sustainable development and the need to improve their quality and quantity, including through the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, as appropriate,

Reaffirming that fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development and that all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles,

Noting that in recent years there have been many initiatives on sustainable development governance, including policy documents on living well in harmony with nature,

Noting also the adoption and the opening for signature, at United Nations Headquarters, of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Escazú Agreement, the first binding agreement of its kind, and noting its entry into force on 22 April 2021, International Mother Earth Day, as a contribution to sustainable development,

Recognizing that many ancient civilizations, Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous cultures have a rich history of understanding the symbiotic connection between human beings and nature that fosters a mutually beneficial relationship,

Recognizing also that the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of Indigenous Peoples and local communities support social well-being and sustainable livelihoods and therefore contribute to global efforts and initiatives such as the Sustainable Development Goals,

Noting that some countries are discussing the possibility of considering a declaration on the protection of nature, based on their legislation, policy and educational perspectives,

Noting also that, in a number of countries, both formal and informal educational activities on the rights of Nature or Mother Earth have arisen in the professional and public spheres in the context of the promotion of sustainable development, and encouraging a holistic approach to education and public awareness for sustainable development in its three dimensions,

Recognizing the work undertaken by civil society, academia, scientists, local communities and Indigenous Peoples with regard to signalling the precariousness of life on Earth, as well as their efforts, along with those of Governments and private sector organizations, to devise more sustainable models and methods for production and consumption,

Noting the work of the experts of the Harmony with Nature Knowledge Network, who are collaborating on important activities in order to support the United Nations with the goal of ensuring that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature, as set out in target 12.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Considering that sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge, including the multiple ecological, socioeconomic and cultural values of Nature,

Taking note of the conceptual framework of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and also noting the findings of the methodological assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits, including biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services,[345] that provides guidance to navigate pathways for reconciling people's good quality of life with life on Earth and advancing the intertwined economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in a balanced manner, including that world views shape people's values in their relationships with other people and with

[345] IPBES/9/14/Add.2.

nature, and that bio/ecocentric, cosmocentric and pluricentric world views refer to living in harmony with all forms of existence that are considered alive and connected by reciprocal and interdependent relationships,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature;[346]

2. *Invites* Member States to consider existing studies and, as appropriate, the findings and recommendations of the reports of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature,[347] of the experts' summary report of the first virtual dialogue of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature, addressing Earth jurisprudence,[348] and of the interactive dialogues of the Assembly on Harmony with Nature in the promotion of the balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development through harmony with nature;

3. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene, at the seventy-seventh session of the Assembly, an interactive dialogue among Member States, to be held on 24 April 2023 at the plenary meetings during the commemoration of International Mother Earth Day, with the participation of the United Nations system, independent experts and other relevant stakeholders, in particular Indigenous Peoples, in order to discuss the possibility of convening and the scope of a high-level meeting, tentatively entitled "Earth Assembly", to be held on 22 April 2024, so that an evolving non-anthropocentric or Earth-centred paradigm continues to reinforce multilateralism through the discussion of alternative holistic approaches based on diverse world views that may contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[349] and beyond;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide adequate support, within existing resources, for a possible high-level meeting, as appropriate, and encourages delegations and all relevant stakeholders to support the participation of representatives of developing countries;

5. *Encourages* the experts of the Harmony with Nature Knowledge Network to carry out a study of the evolution of regional, local and national initiatives on the protection of Mother Earth, as applicable, to be considered by the Secretary-General in his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Decides* to continue to observe International Mother Earth Day annually on 22 April, requests the Secretary-General to provide continuing support, and encourages Member States to observe the International Day at the national level;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the agreement between the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat,[350] invites Member States to contribute to the earmarked activities related to Harmony with Nature under the trust fund of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, aiming, inter alia, at the participation of independent experts in the interactive dialogues of the General Assembly on Harmony with Nature, and invites relevant stakeholders to contribute to the earmarked activities related to Harmony with Nature;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use the website on Harmony with Nature, managed by the Division for Sustainable Development Goals of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, to gather information and contributions on ideas and activities to promote a holistic approach to sustainable development in harmony with nature and to advance the integration of interdisciplinary scientific work, including success stories on the use of traditional knowledge and on existing national legislation;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the proposal by the Head of State of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to establish a group of friends of Harmony with Nature, with a view to making innovative, transformative and action-oriented proposals for responding to present and future challenges, grounded in equity and justice;

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[346] A/77/244.

[347] A/65/314, A/66/302, A/67/317, A/68/325, A/68/325/Corr.1, A/69/322, A/70/268, A/72/175, A/73/221, A/74/236, A/75/266 and A/77/244.

[348] See A/71/266.

[349] Resolution 70/1.

[350] Available at www.harmonywithnatureun.org/trustFund.

10. *Calls for* holistic and integrated approaches to sustainable development, in its three dimensions, that will guide humanity to live in harmony with nature and lead to efforts to restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystems;

11. *Invites* States, as appropriate:

(a) To further build up a knowledge network in order to advance a holistic conceptualization of sustainable development in its three dimensions to identify different approaches that reflect the drivers and values of and actions aimed at living in harmony with nature, relying on current scientific information to achieve sustainable development, and to facilitate support for and recognition of the fundamental interconnections between humankind and nature;

(b) To promote harmony with nature, exemplified by Indigenous Peoples, among others, to learn from their cultures the protection of nature, and to support and promote efforts being made at the local, national, regional and global levels, taking into account, inter alia, the best practices and advances made in the establishment of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform;

12. *Recognizes* that protecting and conserving ecosystems and avoiding harmful practices against animals, plants, microorganisms and non-living environments contributes to the coexistence of humankind in harmony with nature, and invites the Secretary-General to address these issues in his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Encourages* all countries to develop and strengthen the quality and quantity of basic national statistical data on the three dimensions of sustainable development, including through the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and other relevant intergovernmental mechanisms, as appropriate, and invites the international community and the pertinent bodies of the United Nations system to support the efforts of developing countries by providing capacity-building and technical assistance;

14. *Recognizes* the urgent need for broader and multidimensional measures of sustainable development, to complement gross domestic product in order to better inform policy decisions, and in this regard notes the ongoing work of the Statistical Commission on a work programme to develop broader measures of progress and to conduct a technical review of existing efforts in this area;[351]

15. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

16. *Recognizes* that the well-being of humanity depends on the health and integrity of nature, and calls upon the international community to consider the COVID-19 recovery as a unique opportunity to build back better towards more sustainable and inclusive economies and societies in harmony with nature;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-ninth session, an action-oriented report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on concrete actions that would help States and the United Nations system to accelerate their efforts in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the realm of the resolution on Harmony with Nature, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Harmony with Nature".

RESOLUTION 77/170

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.9, para. 8)[352]

[351] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 4* (E/2013/24), chap. I, sect. C, decision 44/114.

[352] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

77/170. Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/7 of 16 October 1998, 54/215 of 22 December 1999, 55/205 of 20 December 2000, 56/200 of 21 December 2001, 58/210 of 23 December 2003, 60/199 of 22 December 2005, 62/197 of 19 December 2007, 64/206 of 21 December 2009, 66/206 of 22 December 2011, 69/225 of 19 December 2014, 70/201 of 22 December 2015, 71/233 of 21 December 2016, 72/224 of 20 December 2017, 73/236 of 20 December 2018, 74/225 of 19 December 2019, 75/221 of 21 December 2020 and 76/210 of 17 December 2021, as well as its resolutions 65/151 of 20 December 2010 on the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All and 67/215 of 21 December 2012, in which it decided to declare 2014–2024 the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All,

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further the Paris Agreement[353] and its early entry into force, and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[354] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General on 23 September 2019 and the multi-partner initiatives and commitments presented during the Summit,

Noting the establishment by the Secretary-General of the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance,

Highlighting the synergies between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement,

Recalling the ministerial declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development[355] held in 2022, which took note of the Secretary-General's proposed global road map for accelerated Sustainable Development Goal 7 action and reaffirmed the need to continuously engage on the implementation of Goal 7,

Expressing concern that, at current rates of progress, none of the global energy targets of the Sustainable Development Goals will be achieved by 2030,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[356] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[357] and Agenda 21[358] and the principles set out therein, and recalling the recommendations and conclusions contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

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

[354] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[355] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/77/3), chap. VI, sect. D.

[356] Resolution 55/2.

[357] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[358] Ibid., annex II.

(Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[359] and the outcome documents of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[360] the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway",[361] the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, entitled "Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024",[362] the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, entitled "Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020",[363] and the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, entitled "Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries"[364] for the decade 2022–2031, as well as the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[365] which underlines, inter alia, the importance of energy for cities,

Reaffirming also that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing the need for the creation of an enabling environment at all levels and across all sectors for the achievement of sustainable development,

Reaffirming further the sovereign rights of countries over their energy resources and their right to define appropriate policies for the production and use of energy, recognizing that the 2030 Agenda shall be implemented for the full benefit of all, for today's generation and for future generations,

Emphasizing that universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all is an integral part of poverty eradication and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, and that the increased use and promotion of new technologies and renewable energy, including in off-grid and decentralized systems, and energy efficiency could make a significant contribution in that regard,

Deeply concerned that, while progress towards the achievement of Goal 7 has been made in some regions of the world, efforts remain well below the scale required to meet the Goal by 2030,[366]

Deeply concerned also that 2.4 billion people in developing countries, especially in rural areas, rely on traditional biomass, coal and kerosene for cooking and heating, with disproportionate health and workload impacts on women, children and people in vulnerable situations, including an estimated 4 million premature deaths annually, that, while the global population without access to electricity has fallen below 1 billion, close to 733 million people are still without access to electricity, that reliability and affordability remain challenges in many countries, even as the number of household connections increases, that Africa accounts for more than half of both access figures and that, even when energy services are available, millions of poor people are unable to pay for them,

Noting with concern that energy represents less than 1 per cent of overall United Nations expenditure on the Sustainable Development Goals, despite its critical importance also in achieving other goals,

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,

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[359] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[360] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[361] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[362] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[363] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[364] Resolution 76/258, annex.

[365] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[366] See A/77/211.

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,

Emphasizing the critical socioeconomic benefits of affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy and the need to reframe the understanding of energy from a technical unit to a requirement for basic social services, including health care, economic development and poverty eradication,

Recognizing that affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy services are essential for effectively responding to and achieving sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and socioeconomic crises, including for powering health-care and educational facilities, supplying safe drinking water and water for sanitation, including hand-washing, as well as water for agriculture and food production, supporting sustainable food systems and providing communications and digital services to connect people, share information and facilitate education, and further recognizing that ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all contributes to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the implementation of other relevant intergovernmentally agreed frameworks in the economic, social and environmental fields and that reaching Sustainable Development Goal 7 by the end of the decade requires an urgent and steep rise in investment in and financing of affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy and energy efficiency, while noting that the unprecedented crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic will have serious impacts on progress towards fulfilling the commitment on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030, and economic disruptions related to the COVID-19 crisis have made it even harder for developing countries to reach Goal 7, noting the announcement of Governments aiming to achieve net-zero emissions, and taking note of the findings, in the report of the Secretary-General,[367] to put the world on track for reaching this objective,

Highlighting the importance of the empowerment of developing countries to achieve universal access through the rapid expansion of affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy worldwide,

Highlighting also the significant efforts made in developing countries that contributed to an increase in the global electrification rate to 91 per cent in 2020, and stressing the need to further close the electrification gap in many difficult-to-reach populations, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa,

Recognizing that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that this will include the mobilization of financial resources, as well as capacity-building and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on mutually agreed terms, including concessional and preferential terms,

Noting with concern that lack of energy access has remained a challenge for developing countries and that sustainable and resilient and inclusive development would be unachievable without ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all,

Welcoming the increase in the share of renewable energy as a part of total final energy consumption over the past decade and the significant reductions in the cost of renewable energy, the sector's net positive job contributions and the rapid expansion of renewable energy capacity additions, which are now greater than those of other resources in the electricity sector, and noting that the levelized cost of solar and wind energy in many regions of the world is fully competitive with or undercuts traditional energy resources,

Noting with appreciation the work of the International Renewable Energy Agency, which facilitates the widespread and increased adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy,

Noting the work of multi-stakeholder partnerships, including Sustainable Energy for All, which has given strong momentum to the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency, the initiatives of the Global Climate Action Agenda, the Small Island Developing States Lighthouses Initiative, SIDS DOCK, the Energy Efficiency Hub and others that can contribute to reaching the objective of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all,

Noting with appreciation that the transformation of the world's energy systems is being accelerated by advances in technology, rapid declines in the cost of renewable energy, the deployment of least-cost decentralized solutions,

[367] A/77/211.

policy support, new business models and the sharing of best practices, and noting the continuing work of the International Renewable Energy Agency and the International Solar Alliance,

Stressing the need for a coherent, integrated approach to energy issues and the promotion of synergies across the global energy agenda, with a focus on eradicating poverty and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Noting that the transitions to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all should be just, inclusive, equitable and secure, in line with national circumstances, in order to achieve universal access by 2030, while recognizing the need to increase the share of renewable and clean energy, including as a cooking source in urban areas, to significantly reduce negative health impacts and contribute to decreased greenhouse gas emissions and to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[368]

2. *Also takes note* of the role and activities of the International Renewable Energy Agency, encouraging the Agency to continue to support its members in the achievement of their renewable energy objectives, as well as the contributions of the International Solar Alliance, including in its capacity as an observer of the General Assembly in accordance with resolution 76/123 of 9 December 2021, and encouraging its work to collectively address key common challenges to the scaling up of solar energy, as well as the contributions of other international and regional organizations and forums to the global energy agenda;

3. *Notes with concern* the two-year[369] decline in international financial flows to developing countries in support of clean, sustainable, affordable, reliable, just and inclusive energy transitions, recognizes that the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 7 requires an urgent and steep rise in energy investment and finance, including investments in clean technologies and quality infrastructure with a priority focus on the needs of the world's least developed countries and on universal access to electricity, and in that regard calls upon countries, public and private financial institutions and other stakeholders to scale up the provision of finance for developing countries;

4. *Strongly encourages* Governments and other relevant stakeholders to take actions to achieve universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy, increase the global share of renewable energy, improve the inclusion of developing countries in energy sector cooperation, where relevant, and increase the rate of improvement in energy efficiency for a clean, low-emission, low-carbon, climate-resilient, safe, efficient, modern, affordable, reliable and sustainable energy system, given the systemic sustainable development benefits, while taking into consideration the diversity of national situations, priorities, policies, specific needs and challenges and capacities of developing countries, including their energy mix and energy systems;

5. *Calls for* ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, as such services are an integral part of poverty eradication measures, human dignity, quality of life, economic opportunity, the combating of inequality, the promotion of health and the prevention of morbidity and mortality, access to education, safe drinking water and sanitation, food security, nutrition, disaster risk reduction and resilience, climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental impact reduction, social inclusion and gender equality, including for persons affected by humanitarian emergencies;

6. *Underscores* the importance of access to cleaner and more efficient and sustainable cooking and heating methods, welcomes ongoing efforts, and in this regard calls for the promotion of an enabling environment at the national and international levels for the increased usage of sustainable, cleaner and more efficient cooking and heating methods in all countries, in particular developing countries;

7. *Acknowledges* that means of implementation must be significantly strengthened, to enable decisive action and focusing in particular on additional finance and investment in line with target 7.a of the Sustainable Development

[368] A/77/211.

[369] 2018 and 2019.

Goals, and agrees that, without a strong push on innovation, new technologies, capacity-building and quality data, global efforts to achieve Goal 7 are bound to fail;

8. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders to leverage the cost-competitiveness of renewable energy, especially in off-grid areas, in order to achieve universal energy access, such as by establishing policy frameworks, including for metering and payment systems, cost comparisons between grid extension and off-grid solutions, facilitating investment by domestic and foreign banks and educating students, communities, investors and entrepreneurs on renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation, among other activities, where feasible and appropriate;

9. *Recognizes* the role that natural gas can play in supporting transitions towards lower-emission energy systems, and calls upon Governments to enhance and collaborate on energy security, including through the sharing of best practices and knowledge for the security of gas supply and demand, in the broader context of the transition towards lower-emission energy systems;

10. *Supports* energy access in accordance with the national needs of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, to tackle their energy access challenges according to the specific needs of each country by mobilizing technical and financial assistance and tools to deploy affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy solutions to tackle the energy access deficit;

11. *Calls upon* Governments to expand the use of renewable energy beyond the power sector, taking into account national priorities and constraints, to industry, heating and cooling, construction and infrastructure and, in particular, the transport sector, including through sustainable sector coupling and sustainable and modern bioenergy and hydrogen in the context of sustainable development, including climate change, and calls for supportive policy initiatives and investments at the national and international levels;

12. *Recognizes* that current global progress in improving energy efficiency falls well below the pace necessary to double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency by 2030, and encourages, in accordance with national laws and regulations, the promotion of widespread energy efficiency initiatives in all economic sectors, the adoption and updating of building performance codes and standards, energy efficiency labelling, the promotion of energy management systems, the retrofitting of existing buildings and public procurement policies on energy, among other modalities, as appropriate, as well as the prioritization of smart grid systems, district energy systems and community energy plans to improve synergies among clean and effective use of traditional resources, renewable energy and energy efficiency, which aim to promote the interconnectivity of clean and renewable energy infrastructure and improve energy efficiency;

13. *Calls for* strengthened cooperation at the regional level to promote innovation and facilitate financing, support regional cross-border power grid connectivity, as appropriate, to advance economic integration and sustainable development and share best practices that are responsive to regional needs with regard to Sustainable Development Goal 7 and its interlinkages with the other Goals, and in this regard encourages Governments to reinforce their energy interconnections, connecting regional energy markets and increasing energy security at the global level;

14. *Calls upon* Governments, as well as relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to combine, as appropriate, the increased use of new technologies and renewable energy resources, other low- or zero-emissions solutions, more efficient use of energy and greater reliance on advanced energy technologies, including technologies that avoid, abate and remove greenhouse gas emissions;

15. *Encourages* Governments, relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to promote investments in developing sustainable, reliable, modern, inclusive and equitable energy systems, inter alia, by strengthening energy systems through cross-border grid connections, as appropriate, and to consider incorporating decentralized renewable energy solutions in energy planning, as appropriate, and recognizes that energy transitions will take different paths in different parts of the world;

16. *Encourages* Governments and all relevant stakeholders to increase investment and actions to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 7, and to integrate affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy solutions to enhance responses to and recovery from COVID-19, in line with resilient, inclusive and sustainable development pathways, and to ensure energy security, and urges developed countries, relevant international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to support the efforts of developing countries, especially the poorest and most vulnerable, taking into consideration the different national circumstances and in line

with the national development priorities of developing countries, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships, in order to fulfil the commitment on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030, recognizing that increased investments in affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy solutions and accelerated action beyond a business-as-usual recovery will aid countries in responding to the pandemic and economic crisis, for a sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery, including by reducing emissions, creating jobs and promoting resource efficiency, and in advancing long-term resilience and the Sustainable Development Goals, which are integrated and interrelated;

17. *Encourages* Governments, relevant international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to use and promote an integrated resource planning and management approach in their energy strategies that considers energy choices in the context of linked sectors, inter alia, water, waste, air quality and food, taking into account national circumstances;

18. *Recognizes* that sustainable energy access and its deployment can be both improved and accelerated by gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and calls upon Governments, the United Nations development system and other stakeholders to increase educational and capacity-building programmes for women in the sector, further advance equal pay and leadership and other opportunities for women in the energy sector, promote women's full, equal and effective participation and leadership in the design and implementation of energy policies and programmes, mainstream a gender perspective in such policies and programmes and ensure women's full and equal access to and use of sustainable energy to enhance their economic and social empowerment, including employment and other income-generating opportunities;

19. *Encourages* Governments, with the support of relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to accelerate the transition towards sustainable economies, according to national policies and plans, through mitigation and adaptation strategies that improve energy efficiency and create more and better employment opportunities for all, including young people, in wage and self-employment;

20. *Emphasizes* the potential of sustainable energy use to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, recognizes that increasing the deployment of renewable energy and enhancing energy efficiency are components of many countries' nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and urges effective and timely support for the full implementation of all those contributions, as applicable;

21. *Notes* that the impacts of climate change can also threaten access to and the supply of energy, and also notes the importance of increasing the resilience of the energy sector to climate change, which can be facilitated by the expansion of renewable energy;

22. *Emphasizes*, while noting progress, that the large-scale deployment of clean energy technologies has been insufficient and uneven, and that support is required to realize their potential, along with appropriate policy initiatives and investments at the national and international levels, with Governments working in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector;

23. *Also emphasizes* the value of regional and interregional approaches, which can, among other advantages, enhance the deployment of renewable and sustainable energy by facilitating the sharing of experiences, reduce transaction costs, leverage economies of scale, enable greater cross-border interconnectivity to promote energy system reliability and resilience and augment domestic capacity-building, and recognizes the work of organizations and initiatives in that regard;

24. *Invites* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions, the private sector and non-governmental organizations, to continue ongoing efforts and take further action to provide financial resources, as appropriate, to support efforts aimed at ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including low-emission, low-carbon and climate-resilient new technologies and renewable resources of energy of demonstrated viability, especially focused on energy access and economic development in both urban and rural areas, while noting the potential catalytic effect of concessional and other finance and taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries;

25. *Encourages* the development, dissemination, diffusion and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on mutually agreed terms, including concessional and preferential terms, and highlights the importance of integrating sustainable energy in the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

26. *Stresses* the importance of strategies and contributions by Governments and relevant stakeholders to multi-stakeholder partnerships in ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, and encourages coordination and collaboration between the United Nations and relevant multi-stakeholder partnerships and international organizations, such as Sustainable Energy for All;

27. *Recognizes* the catalytic effect of the sharing of knowledge and experience, capacity-building and technical assistance on sustainable energy deployment, and encourages existing and new efforts to enable Governments of developing countries and relevant stakeholders to plan, finance, implement and monitor sustainable energy projects to further strengthen their national institutions and capacities;

28. *Encourages* the development of viable market-oriented strategies that could result in further rapid reductions in the cost of new technologies and renewable resources of energy and could further increase the competitiveness of those technologies, including through the adoption, as appropriate, of public policies for research, development and market deployment, including phasing out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption while providing targeted support to the poor and most vulnerable, in accordance with national circumstances;

29. *Emphasizes* the value of education, academia, technology and entrepreneurship in developing solutions to face energy challenges and achieve energy sustainability, as well as the importance of investing in research and development and demonstrations in sustainable and clean energy technologies, and also emphasizes in this context the urgent need to enhance international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, hydrogen, energy storage, carbon capture, utilization and storage, bioenergy with carbon capture and storage, and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technologies, including technologies that avoid, abate and remove greenhouse gas emissions, and improved infrastructures for supplying affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;

30. *Calls for* national efforts to promote access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and strengthened local engagement to complement current approaches, and reaffirms the commitment to supporting subnational and local efforts, taking advantage of their direct control, where applicable, of local infrastructure and codes to foster uptake in end-use sectors, such as residential, commercial and industrial buildings, industry, agriculture, transport, waste and sanitation;

31. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to promote the provision of stable, adequate and predictable financial resources and technical assistance for sustainable energy and to enhance the effectiveness, coordination and full utilization of appropriate international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects for ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, and recalls the convening of the high-level dialogue on the midpoint review of the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (2014–2024), held on 23 and 24 May 2019;

32. *Takes note* of the high-level dialogue on energy held on 24 September 2021 to promote the implementation of the energy-related goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[370] in support of the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All and the voluntary commitments in the form of 200 energy compacts, and also takes note of the Secretary-General's proposed road map for accelerated action on Goal 7, as described in the report of the Secretary-General, and the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue engagement with Member States on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 7, in a comprehensive and evidence-based manner, as a follow-up to the high-level dialogue on energy and the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All;

34. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to convene a global stocktaking, funded from extrabudgetary resources, to be held in 2024, marking the completion of the ongoing efforts to implement the plan of action of the Decade, and building on the follow-up to the high-level dialogue on energy, to further accelerate the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 7 of the 2030 Agenda;

35. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to work through existing initiatives and resources and within its mandate with relevant stakeholders, such as international financial institutions, along with development

[370] Resolution 70/1.

partners, such as multilateral and regional development banks and the private sector, to address capacity and funding gaps, particularly in developing countries, to scale up energy-related investments and to provide support to countries in need so as to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;

36. *Encourages* UN-Energy to support coherence and coordination among the energy-related activities of the entities of the United Nations development system, within their respective mandates, and with existing resources in line with the implementation of resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016, 72/279 of 31 May 2018 and 74/297 of 11 August 2020 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2019/15 of 8 July 2019, in order to assist countries, in particular at the country level, inter alia through normative support and expertise to the resident coordinator system, upon request by their Governments, by leveraging partnerships with other international organizations, donors and relevant stakeholders, including in their efforts to achieve universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all and to accelerate its deployment;

37. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

38. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to promote renewable energy, energy efficiency and related sustainable practices in all United Nations facilities and operations around the world, where appropriate and economically viable;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including activities carried out to mark the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all".

RESOLUTION 77/171

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 173 to 3, with 1 abstention,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.10, para. 7)[371]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Israel, Nauru, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia

[371] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

77/171. Combating sand and dust storms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 70/195 of 22 December 2015, 71/219 of 21 December 2016, 72/225 of 20 December 2017, 73/237 of 20 December 2018, 74/226 of 19 December 2019, 75/222 of 21 December 2020 and 76/211 of 17 December 2021 on combating sand and dust storms,

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further the Paris Agreement[372] and its early entry into force, and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[373] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Paris Agreement, noting with concern the findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C*, noting with concern also the findings of the report of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific entitled *Sand and Dust Storms Risk Assessment in Asia and the Pacific* and the report of the United Nations Environment Programme entitled *Impacts of Sand and Dust Storms on Oceans: A Scientific Environmental Assessment for Policy Makers*, in addition to the World Health Organization global air quality guidelines and the World Meteorological Organization report entitled *2020 State of Climate Services: Risk Information and Early Warning Systems*, noting the holding of the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, hosted by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Glasgow, in partnership with Italy, from 31 October to 13 November 2021, welcoming the holding of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties in Egypt from 6 to 20 November 2022, and looking forward to the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in the United Arab Emirates in November 2023,

Recalling United Nations Environment Assembly resolutions 1/7 of 27 June 2014 on strengthening the role of the United Nations Environment Programme in promoting air quality,[374] 2/21 of 27 May 2016 on sand and dust storms[375] and 4/10 of 15 March 2019 on innovation on biodiversity and land degradation,[376]

Acknowledging the work done by the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,[377] towards mitigating sand and dust storm issues at source, and acknowledging also the continuing support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for countries affected by sand and dust storms through the promotion of

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

[373] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[374] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/69/25), annex.

[375] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/71/25), annex.

[376] UNEP/EA.4/Res.10.

[377] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

sustainable land use management, agroforestry, shelter belts, afforestation/reforestation and land restoration programmes, which all contribute to sand and dust storm source mitigation,

Welcoming the convening of the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, from 9 to 20 May 2022, noting the adoption of the Abidjan Call as well as the Abidjan Legacy Programme, to address drought and preserve and restore the terrestrial ecosystem, reverse land degradation and halt the loss of biodiversity, noting also decision 26/COP.15 of 20 May 2022,[378] in which the Conference urged a proactive approach to enhance cooperation at all levels to address the causes and impacts of sand and dust storms and called for the organization of a science-policy dialogue to develop guidance and policies to address sand and dust storms, welcoming the offers made by the Government of Saudi Arabia and the Government of Mongolia to host the sixteenth and seventeenth sessions, in 2024 and 2026, respectively, looking forward to the convening of the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocols to the Convention, to be held in Montreal, Canada, with the presidency of China, from 7 to 19 December 2022, looking forward also to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework that contributes to the 2030 Agenda, and looking forward further to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meetings of the Parties to the Protocols to the Convention, to be held in Türkiye,

Noting the adoption, by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-second session, of resolution 72/7 of 19 May 2016 on regional cooperation to combat sand and dust storms in Asia and the Pacific,

Noting also the endorsement by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-fifth session of the recommendation by the Governing Council of the Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management to establish a subregional cooperation mechanism for slow-onset hazards with a focus on sand and dust storms in South-West and Central Asia, and noting the endorsement by the Commission at its seventy-eighth session of the Regional Plan of Action on Sand and Dust Storms in Asia and the Pacific, which provides a strategic framework and reference for countries in the region to take action at the national and regional levels, in the context of multi-hazard disaster risk reduction, to reduce the negative impact of sand and dust storms and identify anthropogenic measures that could contribute to or mitigate their formation and intensity,

Recalling its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, in which it endorsed the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",

Recalling also its resolutions 71/229 of 21 December 2016, 72/220 of 20 December 2017, 73/233 of 20 December 2018, 74/220 of 19 December 2019, 75/218 of 21 December 2020 and 76/206 of 17 December 2021 on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,

Taking note of the Regional Programme to Combat Sand and Dust Storms of the United Nations Environment Programme, and of other initiatives, including the ministerial meeting on sand and dust storms held in Nairobi on 21 February 2013 on the margins of the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/283 of 3 June 2015, and recognizing that one of the priorities for action of the Framework is an understanding of disaster risk for prevention and mitigation and for the development and implementation of appropriate preparedness and effective response to disasters, which continue to undermine efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Acknowledging that, based on the notion of hazards as defined in the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[379] addressing multidimensional hazards, including

[378] See ICCD/COP(15)/23/Add.1.

[379] A/CONF.206/6 and A/CONF.206/6/Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

those posed by sand and dust storms, contributes towards the achievement of the goals, targets and priorities for action set out in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,

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,

Stressing the need for cooperation at the global and regional levels with a view to managing and mitigating the effects of sand and dust storms through the enhancement of early warning systems and the sharing of climate and weather information to forecast sand and dust storms, and affirming that resilient action to combat and prevent sand and dust storms requires a better understanding of the severe multidimensional impacts of sand and dust storms, including the deterioration of the health, well-being and livelihood of people, increased desertification and land degradation, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and land productivity, and their impact on sustainable economic growth,

Recognizing that sand and dust storms are an issue of international concern, the costs of which are measured in economic, social and environmental terms, and that sand and dust storms continue to grow and negatively affect the achievement of 11 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their means of implementation, expressing deep concern about the devastating impacts of COVID-19 on human health and well-being, while taking into consideration that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the challenges faced by people in vulnerable situations, noting with concern that sand and dust storms may exacerbate the symptoms of respiratory diseases such as COVID-19 and may complicate and prolong the recovery from the disease, in addition to the other negative impacts that can be associated with respiratory disorders such as asthma, tracheitis, pneumonia and silicosis, which may lead to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and cardiovascular and heart disorders, in addition to eye and skin irritation, and can also spread other diseases, such as meningitis, and taking into account that a reduction in cardiovascular and respiratory disease, as comorbidities linked to COVID-19-related deaths, can produce significant health benefits, when mitigating measures are taken,

Emphasizing the relevance of the efforts and cooperation of Member States at the regional and international levels to control and reduce the negative impacts of sand and dust storms on human settlements in vulnerable regions, recalling its resolution 72/225, in which it noted the International Conference on Combating Sand and Dust Storms, held in Tehran from 3 to 5 July 2017, welcoming the holding of other meetings with the active participation of all countries, and taking note with appreciation of other ongoing initiatives by various countries to combat sand and dust storms, especially at the regional level,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[380]

2. *Recognizes* that sand and dust storms and the unsustainable land management, soil, agricultural and livestock practices, among other factors, that can cause or exacerbate these phenomena, including climate change, pose a serious challenge to the sustainable development of affected countries and regions, also recognizes that, in the past few years, sand and dust storms have inflicted substantial economic, social and environmental damage on the inhabitants of the world's arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid areas, especially in Africa and Asia, and underscores the need to treat them and to promptly take measures to address those challenges;

3. *Recalls* the convening of a high-level interactive dialogue on sand and dust storms, held at Headquarters in New York on 16 July 2018, bringing together Member States, observer States and observers of the General Assembly, United Nations system entities, regional commissions and other stakeholders to discuss action-oriented recommendations and address the challenges faced by the affected countries, including ways to improve policy

[380] A/77/216.

coordination at the global level to tackle those challenges in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, during which the continuing need to confront the challenges presented by sand and dust storms was highlighted;

4. *Welcomes* the operationalization of the United Nations Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms, which is pursuing efforts, within its mandate and resources, to move to the implementation stage, and aims, inter alia, to promote and coordinate a collaborative United Nations system response to the growing issue of sand and dust storms on a local, regional and global scale, ensuring that unified and coherent action is taken, and to facilitate the capacity-building of Member States, raise their awareness and enhance their preparedness and response to sand and dust storms in critical regions;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General to consider designating a relevant agency or entity with adequate capacity to act as a focal point on sand and dust storms in the United Nations system to follow up the decisions in the relevant resolutions and the United Nations Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of new and innovative technologies and best practices in combating sand and dust storms, as well as their sharing and transfer on mutually agreed terms;

7. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional organizations and processes to continue to share best practices, experiences and technical expertise in combating and preventing sand and dust storms to address the root causes and impacts of sand and dust storms, including through improved implementation of sustainable land management, soil, agricultural and livestock practices, and to promote regional cooperation in this matter to reduce the risks and impact of future sand and dust storms and to provide affected countries with capacity-building and technical support from the relevant United Nations organizations, such as the World Meteorological Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organization, within their respective mandates, to this end;

8. *Acknowledges* the generous offer by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host an international conference on combating sand and dust storms, with the cooperation of the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Health Organization, the World Meteorological Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as other relevant United Nations entities, in 2023;

9. *Invites* all affected Member States as well as relevant entities of the United Nations development system, regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to endeavour to meet the objectives set out in the present resolution;

10. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time and, among other factors, is a serious challenge to the sustainable development of all countries, including those affected by sand and dust storms, and emphasizes that, among other factors, climate change is an important potential contributor to future wind erosion and the risk of sand and dust storms, especially the occurrence of more extreme wind events and the movement towards drier climates, although reverse effects are possible;

11. *Recognizes* that sand and dust storms cause numerous human health problems in different regions around the world, especially in arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid regions, and that there is a need to reinforce protective strategies to reduce the negative impacts of sand and dust storms on human health, invites the World Health Organization, with the cooperation of other relevant United Nations system entities, as appropriate, to support affected countries in combating health problems caused by sand and dust storms, within their respective mandates, recognizes the formation of a working group on sand and dust storms to discuss emerging issues and share information under the technical advisory group on global air pollution and health of the World Health Organization, and also recognizes the publication of a dedicated section on the health effects of sand and dust storms as part of the World Health Organization global air quality guidelines released in September 2021, and the development of standard operating procedures to assess and address the short-term health effects of desert dust by the World Health Organization, in collaboration with experts from the World Meteorological Organization;

12. *Emphasizes* that sand and dust storm issues will continue to constitute important components of the global coalition on health, environment and climate change launched in May 2018 by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization to improve coordination and reduce the 12.6 million deaths each year that are attributed to environmental risks, such as air pollution;

13. *Commends* the United Nations Environment Assembly on its commitment to addressing sand and dust storms, and in this regard notes Environment Assembly resolution 2/21 on sand and dust storms, adopted during its second session, and resolution 4/10 on innovation on biodiversity and land degradation, adopted during its fourth session;

14. *Takes note* of the convening of the regional ministerial meeting on environmental cooperation for a better future held in the Islamic Republic of Iran on 12 July 2022 to find solutions for regional environmental challenges, especially the issue of sand and dust storms;

15. *Recalls* the convening of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly in Nairobi from 28 February to 2 March 2022, under the theme "Strengthening actions for nature to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals", and also recalls its ministerial declaration;[381]

16. *Commends* the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, on its efforts to develop both a global base map of sand and dust storm sources, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Meteorological Organization, and the *Sand and Dust Storms Compendium: Information and Guidance on Assessing and Addressing the Risks*, in collaboration with the Science-Policy Interface of the Convention and other relevant United Nations system entities, as a comprehensive collation of material designed to provide information and guidance on how to assess and address the risks posed by sand and dust storms and plan actions to combat their recurrence and impacts, also commends the World Meteorological Organization for achieving several improvements to the observation and modelling systems that are part of its Sand and Dust Storm Warning Advisory and Assessment System, which provides sand and dust storm forecasts for early warning systems in various countries, and encourages the World Meteorological Organization and all relevant stakeholders to broaden the regional domains of this system to cover the highly affected regions and to continue making technical improvements to it;

17. *Welcomes* the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, held in Abidjan from 9 to 20 May 2022, takes note of the Abidjan Call and other relevant decisions adopted by the parties during the Conference, namely decision 26/COP.15, and reaffirms the importance of addressing sand and dust storms under the Convention;

18. *Encourages* the relevant entities of the United Nations, including the World Health Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Meteorological Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, within their respective mandates and resources, and donors to continue to provide capacity-building and technical assistance for combating and preventing sand and dust storms and to continue to support the implementation of the national, regional and global action plans of the affected countries;

19. *Decides* to consider during the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly the measures required to designate a day of each year as the International Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms, to further raise international awareness of sand and dust storms;

20. *Acknowledges* the global assessment of sand and dust storms prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme in collaboration with other relevant United Nations system entities, including the World Meteorological Organization and the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, which sets out proposals for consolidated and coordinated technical and policy options for responding to sand and dust storms;

21. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts made by the World Health Organization so far in conducting and its willingness to conduct further studies regarding the common effects of both COVID-19 and sand and dust storms on public health, and invites the United Nations Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms, within its existing mandate and resources, to intensify its efforts to prepare recommendations on mitigating the common effects of both COVID-19 and sand and dust storms on the respiratory systems of infected people, to be included in the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further encourage the United Nations Coalition on Combating Sand and Dust Storms to conduct its priority activities as identified by the Coalition's five working groups, which are knowledge-sharing, capacity-building, training, awareness-raising and support for the formulation of national,

[381] UNEP/EA.5/HLS.1.

regional and interregional plans, to mitigate and prevent sand and dust storm hazards, and to encourage the Coalition to enhance resource mobilization efforts so as to increase voluntary contributions to the Coalition and its member agencies;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Combating sand and dust storms".

RESOLUTION 77/172

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.11, para. 7)[382]

77/172. Sustainable mountain development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/24 of 10 November 1998, 55/189 of 20 December 2000, 57/245 of 20 December 2002, 58/216 of 23 December 2003, 59/238 of 22 December 2004, and its resolutions 60/198 of 22 December 2005, 62/196 of 19 December 2007, 64/205 of 21 December 2009, 66/205 of 22 December 2011 and 68/217 of 20 December 2013, 71/234 of 21 December 2016 and 74/227 of 19 December 2019 entitled "Sustainable mountain development",

Reaffirming 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,

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, inter alia, recognizes that economic and social development depends on the sustainable management of our planet's natural resources and confirms the determination of the international community to conserve and sustainably use oceans and seas and freshwater resources, as well as forests, mountains and drylands, and to conserve biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife,

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,

[382] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czechia, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[383] Agenda 21,[384] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)[385] and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020,

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement[386] and its early entry into force, encouraging all the parties to the Agreement to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[387] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible, and highlighting the synergies between the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement,

Recalling that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, inter alia, recognizes that developing countries with fragile mountainous ecosystems are among the countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change,

Noting with concern the findings contained in the special reports entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C*, *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* and *Climate Change and Land* and the reports of the sixth assessment cycle, including the cross-chapter paper on mountains, of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,

Noting with concern also the adverse impacts of climate change on high mountains, including the retreat of mountain glaciers, permafrost thaw, mass loss of ice sheets and the decline in the depth, extent and duration of snow cover,

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,

Acknowledging the severe consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for the sustainable development of mountain regions, including the far-reaching and enduring consequences for poverty eradication, employment, education, growth, social welfare, the reduction of inequalities, including gender inequality, and for livelihoods, ending hunger, food security and nutrition and access to health-care services, as a result of the unprecedented contraction of the global economy, compounding the challenges posed by climate change,

Recalling the holding of the 2019 Climate Action Summit, convened by the Secretary-General, on 23 September 2019, taking note of the multi-partner initiatives and commitments presented during the Summit, and recalling the Youth Climate Summit, held on 21 September 2019,

Taking note with appreciation of the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit, convened by the Secretary-General on 23 and 24 September 2021, as well as its pre-Summit, held from 26 to 28 July 2021 in Rome, Italy,

Recalling the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030),[388] with its goal of preventing, halting and reversing the degradation of ecosystems worldwide, including in mountain areas,

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[383] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[384] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

[385] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[386] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[387] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[388] See resolution 73/284.

Recalling also the Convention on Biological Diversity,[389] the Aichi Biodiversity Targets contained in its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020[390] and its programme of work on mountain biodiversity,

Recalling further the Aspen Declaration, adopted at the sixth global meeting of the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions (Mountain Partnership), convened in Aspen, United States of America, from 26 to 29 September 2022,

Noting with serious concern the findings of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, stressing the urgent need to halt and reverse the unprecedented global decline in biodiversity, in this regard welcoming the first part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Kunming, China, from 11 to 25 October 2021, and looking forward to the second part of the fifteenth meeting, in Montreal, Canada, from 7 to 19 December 2022, under the presidency of China, which is to adopt an ambitious, balanced, practical, effective, robust and transformative post-2020 global biodiversity framework,

Recalling the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,[391] and noting with appreciation the Bonn Challenge,

Recognizing the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,[392] the latter of which, inter alia, identifies a need for focused action in investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience, and in this regard considers it important to promote, at the national and local levels, the mainstreaming of disaster risk assessment, mapping and management into rural development planning and management of, inter alia, mountains, including through the identification of areas that are safe for human settlement, and at the same time preserving ecosystem functions that help to reduce risks,

Looking forward to the convening of the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, in New York from 22 to 24 March 2023, subsequently referred to as the United Nations 2023 Water Conference, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 73/226 of 20 December 2018 and 75/212 of 21 December 2020,

Reaffirming its resolution 76/129 of 16 December 2021, in which it proclaimed 2022 the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development, on the proposal of the Government of Kyrgyzstan, 20 years after the International Year of Mountains, held in 2002, and 20 years after the establishment of the Mountain Partnership,

Recalling its resolution 76/253 of 15 March 2022, in which it decided to declare 2026 the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists, on the proposal of Mongolia, to raise awareness and fill knowledge gaps globally about the considerable benefits provided by healthy rangelands and sustainable pastoralism,

Recognizing that the benefits derived from mountain regions are essential for sustainable development and that mountain ecosystems play a crucial role in providing water and other essential resources and services to a large portion of the world's population,

Recognizing also that mountain ecosystems are highly vulnerable to the increasing adverse impacts of climate change, extreme weather events, deforestation, forest fires and forest degradation, land-use change, land degradation and natural disasters, from which they recover slowly, and that mountain glaciers around the world are retreating and getting thinner, with increasing impacts on the environment, sustainable livelihoods and human well-being,

Acknowledging that, despite the progress that has been made in promoting the sustainable development of mountain regions and the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, the prevalence of poverty, food insecurity, social exclusion, environmental degradation and exposure to the risk of disasters is still increasing, particularly in developing countries, and access to safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation as well as to sustainable modern energy services continues to be limited,

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[389] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[390] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, annex, decision X/2, annex.

[391] See resolution 71/285.

[392] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

Reaffirming that 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, and that the achievement of full human potential and sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied full human rights and opportunities,

Noting with deep concern that about 340 million people in rural mountain areas in developing countries – 55 per cent of the total rural mountain population – were considered vulnerable to food insecurity in 2017, a steep increase compared with 2012, and in this regard acknowledging the need to prioritize the special and urgent attention needed by mountain areas, including by focusing on the specific challenges that they face and the opportunities that they provide,

Encouraging Member States to advance innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/11 of 2 March 2022,[393]

Noting with appreciation the collaborative efforts of the Mountain Partnership, launched during the World Summit on Sustainable Development as a multi-stakeholder approach benefiting from the committed support of 465 members, including 61 Governments, 19 intergovernmental organizations, 372 major groups and 13 subnational authorities, and engaged in the promotion of sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in mountain regions,

Noting with appreciation also the work of groups of friends aimed at the promotion of sustainable mountain development, such as the Mountain Focus Group, established in 2001, and the Group of Friends of Mountainous Countries, established in 2019, and recalling the high-level meeting on sustainable mountain development, held in New York on 19 September 2022,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on sustainable mountain development;[394]

2. *Encourages* States to adopt a long-term vision and holistic approaches, including by incorporating mountain-specific policies into national sustainable development strategies, increase efforts to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions, address food insecurity and malnutrition, promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, traditional crops and diets, and fight against social exclusion, environmental degradation and disaster risk in mountain areas, taking into account that an integrated landscape approach which addresses natural resources management, including watershed and sustainable forest management as well as climate change resilience through multi-stakeholder approaches, can lead to the sustainable development of highland areas, the improvement of the livelihood of the local mountain communities and the sustainable use of mountain resources;

3. *Encourages* Member States, and invites international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, with respect to sustainable mountain development, to reduce and reverse biodiversity loss and the degradation of land and soil, contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions (Mountain Partnership), the only United Nations voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of people living in mountain areas and protecting mountain environments around the world, and takes note of the Mountain Partnership framework for action for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for mountains, as well as the work of the Mountain Partnership Products initiative;

5. *Stresses* the special vulnerability of people living in mountain environments, in particular local communities and Indigenous Peoples, often with limited access to health, education and economic systems and particularly at risk because of the negative impact of extreme natural phenomena, and invites States to strengthen cooperative action, with the effective involvement and sharing of knowledge and experience of all relevant stakeholders, including traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and local mountain communities living in mountain areas and their cultures, by strengthening existing arrangements, agreements and centres of excellence for sustainable mountain development, as well as exploring new arrangements and agreements, as appropriate;

[393] UNEP/EA.5/Res.11.

[394] A/77/217.

6. *Also stresses* the importance of the diversification of livelihoods and income enhancement opportunities for local mountain communities, and in this regard encourages the promotion of innovative solutions and entrepreneurship within local mountain communities, as appropriate, to end poverty and hunger;

7. *Supports* energy access in accordance with the national needs of developing countries, including mountain countries, to tackle their energy access challenges by identifying the specific needs of each country by mobilizing technical and financial assistance and tools to deploy affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy solutions, and expand the use of renewable energy, to tackle the energy access deficit;

8. *Stresses* the importance of mountain family farming communities and Indigenous Peoples, as one of the custodians of natural and cultural heritage, and encourages Member States to support the activities related to the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), in line with its global action plan, to promote national policies, as appropriate, that support secure land tenure, provide access to resources, ensure gender equality and women's empowerment and empower people in vulnerable situations, and to implement practical actions that can safeguard decent work opportunities, particularly for youth, in rural areas;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of the One Health and other holistic approaches that deliver multiple benefits to the health and well-being of people, animals, plants and ecosystems, including in mountain regions, and would further strengthen the capacity to address biodiversity loss, prevent, prepare for and respond to the emergence of diseases, including zoonotic infections and future health emergencies, and combat antimicrobial resistance;

10. *Stresses* that the traditions and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and of local mountain communities living in mountain areas, particularly in the fields of agriculture, medicine and the management of natural resources, should be fully considered, respected and promoted in development policy, strategies and programmes in mountain regions, and underlines the need to promote the full participation and involvement of local mountain communities in decisions that affect them and to integrate Indigenous and local knowledge, heritage and values in all development initiatives, in consultation with and with the consent of the Indigenous Peoples and local mountain communities concerned, as appropriate;

11. *Recognizes* the need to increase the adaptive capacity, resilience and sustainability of food and agricultural production with regard to climate change, notes that sustainable production practices, agroforestry and the conservation of agrobiodiversity in mountain areas ensure food security and nutrition and dietary diversity and quality, generate income for smallholder farmers and aid conservation and restoration, addressing the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change, and also notes that mountain farmers and pastoralists play a key role in agroecology;

12. *Also recognizes* that urgent action is needed to reduce poverty in mountain areas, and in this regard encourages Member States and all relevant stakeholders to take concrete and targeted measures to eradicate poverty in mountain areas;

13. *Notes* that women are often the primary managers of mountain resources and the main actors in agriculture, underlines the need for improved access to resources and productive assets, including land and economic and financial services, for women in mountain regions, as well as the need to strengthen the role of women in mountain regions in decision-making processes that affect their communities, cultures and environments, and encourages Governments and intergovernmental organizations to mainstream a gender perspective, including through data disaggregated by sex, in mountain development activities, programmes and projects towards the achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment;

14. *Recognizes* that mountains provide sensitive indications of climate change through phenomena such as modifications to biological diversity, the retreat of mountain glaciers, flash floods and changes in seasonal run-off, which are having an impact on major sources of freshwater in the world, and stresses the need to take actions to minimize the negative effects of these phenomena, promote adaptation measures and prevent the loss of biological diversity;

15. *Also recognizes* that the mountain cryosphere has an impact on surrounding lowland areas, even far from the mountains, and that widespread cryosphere changes affect physical, biological and human systems in the mountains and surrounding lowlands, with impacts evident even in the ocean;

16. *Further recognizes* the important role of the cryosphere (glaciers, snow, ice and permafrost) in maintaining ecosystems that provide essential services, which are critical foundations for sustainable development and human well-being, especially for the most vulnerable populations;

17. *Encourages* Member States to collect at the local, national and regional levels, as appropriate, disaggregated scientific data on mountain areas through systematic monitoring, including of trends of progress and change, based on relevant criteria, to support interdisciplinary research programmes and projects and to enhance an integrated and inclusive approach to decision-making and planning, and in this regard notes that the Mountain Green Cover Index is included in the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[395] as an indicator for target 15.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and also notes the need to validate the related national data and improve its data accuracy and analysis at the country level for the implementation of appropriate policies aimed at restoring and protecting mountain environments;

18. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen cooperation between scientific institutions, including in the field of mountain glacier studies, on the global and regional scales, and to promote the availability of research results and findings to stakeholders to develop public policies and programmes of action at the international, regional, bilateral and national levels;

19. *Encourages* Member States and all relevant stakeholders to continue to increase public awareness, including through the commemoration of International Mountain Day, on 11 December, established in its resolution 57/245, and the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development, in 2022, proclaimed in its resolution 76/129, with respect to the economic benefits that mountains provide, for instance through ecosystem services or sustainable tourism, not only to highland communities but also to a large portion of the world's population living in lowland areas;

20. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the contribution of sustainable tourism initiatives in mountain regions as a way to enhance environmental protection and generate socioeconomic benefits for local communities, Indigenous Peoples and rural populations, including opportunities for productive employment, economic growth and the promotion of local culture and products;

21. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural and man-made disasters and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for societies throughout the world, and recognizes that disaster risk reduction requires a broader and more people-centred preventive approach, reflecting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and an all-of-society engagement and partnership, empowerment and inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory participation, paying special attention to people disproportionately affected by disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change, especially the poorest, and also taking into account the vulnerability of people living in mountain environments, especially those in developing countries;

22. *Encourages* States, as appropriate, to strengthen disaster risk governance, to invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience and to develop and improve disaster risk strategies in mountain regions through increased generation and use of climate and disaster risk information, improved risk communication and participation of mountain communities, development of hazard risk maps and platforms, improvement of early warning systems and application of the risk-based approach in all development planning, in order to cope with such extreme events as rockfalls, avalanches, glacial lake outburst floods and landslides, which can be exacerbated by climate change and deforestation, consistent with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[396]

23. *Encourages*, in this regard, the increased involvement of local authorities, as well as other relevant stakeholders, in particular the rural population, Indigenous Peoples, civil society and the private sector, in the development and implementation of programmes, land-use planning and land tenure arrangements, and in other relevant activities related to sustainable development in mountains;

[395] Resolution 70/1.

[396] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

24. *Notes with concern* that the access to services and infrastructure is lower in the highlands than in other areas, and encourages Member States to improve basic infrastructure in mountain areas towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

25. *Recognizes* the need for the sustainable management of forests and the conservation and sustainable use of mountains, which, together with other natural ecosystems, act as natural sinks and reservoirs of biodiversity and greenhouse gases, reducing vulnerability to climate change impacts, allowing the continuity of the hydrological cycle, and encourages Member States to adopt nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/5 of 2 March 2022;[397]

26. *Notes* the importance of ensuring the protection, restoration and conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for human well-being, economic activity and sustainable development, and of developing innovative means of implementation for their protection, in this regard recognizes with appreciation the establishment of relevant funds, including the Mountain Facility of the Mountain Partnership Secretariat, focusing on climate resilient business models that enhance mountain biodiversity, and the efforts made by relevant United Nations entities to promote the conservation of mountain ecosystems, and encourages Member States and all relevant stakeholders to financially support it on a voluntary basis;

27. *Encourages* greater efforts by States, all relevant stakeholders and the international community towards the conservation of mountain ecosystems and the enhancement of the well-being of their local populations, including by promoting investment in infrastructure in mountain areas, such as transport and information and communications technologies, and supporting education, culture, extension and capacity-building programmes, especially among local mountain communities and other relevant stakeholders, strengthening the role of youth through education and training on sustainable mountain development and taking into account the extent of the current challenges that they face and bearing in mind the increased economic, social and environmental costs that inaction might represent for countries and societies;

28. *Underlines* the fact that action at the national level is a key factor in achieving progress in sustainable mountain development, welcomes its steady increase in recent years with a multitude of events, activities and initiatives, and invites the international community to support the efforts of developing countries to develop and implement strategies and programmes, including, where required, enabling policies and laws for the sustainable development of mountains, within the framework of national sustainable development plans, including by building and strengthening institutional capacities, as appropriate;

29. *Encourages* the further undertaking of multi-stakeholder and transboundary initiatives at the national, regional and global levels, where appropriate, such as those supported by all relevant international and regional organizations, to enhance sustainable development in mountain regions, and notes in this regard the numerous initiatives undertaken, including the fifth global meeting of the Mountain Partnership, held in Rome from 11 to 13 December 2017, the fourth World Mountain Forum, held in Bishkek from 23 to 26 October 2018, the High Mountain Summit, held in Geneva from 29 to 31 October 2019, and the sixth global meeting of the Mountain Partnership, held in Aspen from 26 to 29 September 2022, and welcomes the generous offer of the Government of Kyrgyzstan to convene the second Global Mountain Summit in Bishkek from 9 to 11 December 2027;

30. *Decides* to proclaim the period 2023–2027 as Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions in order to enhance the awareness of the international community of the problems of mountain countries and to give new impetus to the international community's efforts to address the challenges and problems of mountain countries;

31. *Encourages* Member States and all relevant stakeholders to consider, as appropriate, mountain-related issues in the processes of United Nations conventions and other relevant global forums, including the process related to a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and to implement the programme of work on mountain biodiversity of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and stresses the importance of regional and transboundary collaboration as means of implementation;

[397] UNEP/EA.5/Res.5.

32. *Encourages* Member States to promote ecosystem-based adaptation, bearing in mind the guidelines adopted by the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in 2018, and climate-smart wildlife conservation as tools for reducing impacts on communities and species, and welcomes the efforts of partners such as the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the Mountain Institute in promoting ecosystem-based adaptation in mountain regions;

33. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to further enhance their constructive efforts to strengthen inter-agency collaboration to promote sustainable mountain development;

34. *Recognizes* that mountain ranges are usually shared among several countries, and in this context encourages transboundary cooperation approaches where the States concerned agree to the sustainable development of mountain ranges and information-sharing in this regard;

35. *Notes with appreciation*, in this context, the Convention on the Protection of the Alps[398] and the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, and the recent adoption of the Protocol on Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development and the entry into force of the Protocol on Sustainable Transport, which promote constructive new approaches to integrated, sustainable mountain development and provide a forum for dialogue among stakeholders, and notes other transboundary approaches and initiatives such as the Andean Initiative for mountains, the Scientific Network for the Caucasus Mountain Region and the established Caucasus Mountain Forum, the African Mountains Regional Forum, the European Union Strategy for the Alpine Region and the Zurich process, the Hindu Kush Himalayan Partnership for Sustainable Mountain Development, the Hindu Kush Himalayan Monitoring and Assessment Programme, the International Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Forum of 2017, the fourth World Nomad Games, in 2022, and the Pyrenean Climate Change Observatory, as well as other relevant initiatives promoting transboundary cooperation and dialogue supported by the United Nations Environment Programme and other partners;

36. *Invites* Member States and relevant United Nations agencies, within their mandates, to further enhance support to sustainable mountain development, including through participation in the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions;

37. *Stresses* that the costs of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, and that such activities would be subject to the availability and provision of voluntary contributions;

38. *Calls upon* mountain countries, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, such as academia, the private sector and investors, to improve international cooperation, including by furthering financial mechanisms between mountain countries and attracting investments;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its eightieth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions, under the sub-item entitled "Sustainable mountain development" of the item entitled "Sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 77/173

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/444, para. 12)[399]

[398] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1917, No. 32724.

[399] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

77/173. Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions on the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), including its resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 65/165 of 20 December 2010, 66/207 of 22 December 2011, 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013, 69/226 of 19 December 2014, 70/210 of 22 December 2015, 71/235 of 21 December 2016, 72/226 of 20 December 2017, 73/239 of 20 December 2018 and 75/224 of 21 December 2020,

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement,[400] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[401] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling its resolution 71/256 of 23 December 2016, entitled "New Urban Agenda", in which it endorsed the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, as contained in the annex to the above-mentioned resolution,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on repositioning the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming also the commitment to urban and rural development that is people-centred, protects the planet and is age- and gender-responsive and to the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, facilitating living together, ending all forms of discrimination and violence and empowering all individuals and communities while enabling their full and meaningful participation, and reaffirming further the commitment to promoting culture and respect for diversity and equality as key elements in the humanization of our cities and human settlements,

Reaffirming further the commitment to promoting the systematic use of multi-stakeholder partnerships in urban development processes, as appropriate, establishing clear and transparent policies, financial and administrative frameworks and procedures, as well as planning guidelines for multi-stakeholder partnerships,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental and the wish to see the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

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

[401] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Noting that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[402] can contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

Reaffirming the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, given its role within the United Nations system as the focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities,

Welcoming the decision of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to endorse the United Nations system-wide strategy on sustainable urban development[403] as a whole-of-system approach by the United Nations to harness the opportunities and mitigate the challenges of rapid urbanization through existing global inter-agency processes, regional collaboration platforms and the resident coordinator system to assist countries in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

Recognizing the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 73/229 of 20 December 2018, including the convening of the first session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly in Nairobi in June 2019, the establishment and subsequent sessions of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat and the convening by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat of the high-level midterm review of the decisions of the United Nations Habitat Assembly held in Nairobi in July 2021, together ensuring a robust governance structure to strengthen Member States' ownership, leadership and oversight of UN-Habitat,

Welcoming the efforts by the United Nations Habitat Assembly and the Executive Board of UN-Habitat to identify ways to align the strategic planning cycle of UN-Habitat with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycle of the United Nations and, as an interim step, to utilize the midterm review of the UN-Habitat strategic plan 2020–2023, convened by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat in July 2021, to take note of the key elements of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review 2021–2024 to inform the midterm review,

Reaffirming the importance of accountability, transparency and improved results-based management and further harmonized results-based reporting for increasing the quantity and quality of funding for operational activities, while recognizing the need to ensure an adequate quantity and quality of funding for the operational and normative activities of UN-Habitat, including its core resources, and the need to make funding more predictable, efficient and effective,

Reaffirming also that the focus of the work of UN-Habitat, in line with the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, should remain within the framework of sustainable development, with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions as its overarching objective, consistent with the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda,

Acknowledging effective multilevel governance as a key dimension and driver of Sustainable Development Goal localization and strengthening institutional integration, policy coherence and stakeholder engagement across levels and sectors,

Reiterating that the implementation of the New Urban Agenda contributes to the implementation and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated and coordinated manner at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders,

Recognizing the role of national, subnational and local governments, as appropriate, and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, throughout the process, including policymaking, planning, design, implementation, operation and maintenance, and monitoring, as well as the financing and timely delivery of services,

Aware that the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda requires enabling policy frameworks at, as appropriate, the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, effective means of implementation, including finance, capacity-building, technology development and transfer, on voluntary and mutually agreed terms, and mutually beneficial partnerships,

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[402] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[403] CEB/2019/1/Add.5.

Reaffirming the importance of financing sustainable and resilient urbanization and quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure and maximizing the impact of public and private investments to improve the financial conditions for urban development, taking into consideration the different capacities of governments at all levels,

Reaffirming also the role of the World Urban Forum as an advocacy platform for all stakeholders in the fields of human settlements and sustainable urbanization, based on its non-legislative nature, and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Poland and the city of Katowice for hosting the eleventh session of the Forum from 26 to 30 June 2022, focusing on the theme "Transforming our cities for a better urban future", and taking note of the Katowice Declared Actions, comprising voluntary actions and commitments aimed at supporting the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Noting with great concern the threat to 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 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 future shocks, and recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation,

Recognizing that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has generated new demands for UN-Habitat support for response and recovery plans and strategies promoting sustainable development, as illustrated in the policy brief by the Secretary-General on COVID-19 in an urban world, the report of UN-Habitat entitled *Cities and Pandemics: Towards a More Just, Green and Healthy Future*, in the United Nations framework for the immediate socioeconomic response to COVID-19, with a pillar dedicated to social cohesion and community resilience, and in the UN-Habitat COVID-19 response plan,

Emphasizing the furtherance of the New Urban Agenda to promote more effective emergency preparedness and response in urban areas, and noting the importance of addressing, as appropriate, the particular needs and vulnerabilities of internally displaced persons and host communities in urban settings,

Recognizing that the international community faces increasing challenges posed by the negative impact of climate change, natural disasters and environmental degradation, which have exacerbated vulnerabilities and inequalities for people experiencing homelessness, particularly in developing countries and small island developing States, and stressing the need to anticipate, plan for and reduce disaster risk, including through the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, and to ensure that the right to an adequate standard of living is promoted and respected,

Taking note of the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, which was reviewed by the Economic and Social Council at a special meeting on sustainable urbanization and the New Urban Agenda on 21 April 2022 and thereafter by the General Assembly at a high-level meeting to assess progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, held in New York on 28 April 2022,

Taking note also of the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the high-level meeting of the Assembly to review progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, including the annex thereto containing the declared actions of Member States, which incorporates the commitments presented in the statements of 87 Member States inscribed in the plenary segment emphasizing five areas of action to accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, notably, affordable housing and basic services, urban climate mitigation and adaptation, urban prosperity and financing, multilevel governance and the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, and urban crisis reduction and recovery frameworks,

Taking note further of the establishment of the Group of Friends of UN-Habitat, Sustainable Urbanization and the New Urban Agenda, originated during the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to review progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, to strengthen the interface between the Secretariat and the General Assembly in order to strengthen UN-Habitat, highlight the power of urbanization for sustainable development and accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,

Welcoming efforts by UN-Habitat to jointly coordinate the initiative on sustainable urban resilience for the next generation by the Presidency of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, providing a holistic multi-stakeholder framework to leverage the New

Urban Agenda to accelerate the attainment of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals and to coordinate the ministerial meeting on urbanization and climate change,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),[404]

Governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

1. *Looks forward* to the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, to be held from 5 to 9 June 2023 in Nairobi, and recommends the participation of the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council in line with the spirit of integration and universality of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

2. *Encourages* UN-Habitat, under the guidance of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, to align the strategic planning cycle of UN-Habitat with the cycle for the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations, within existing resources;

3. *Takes note* of the review of management and administration in the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit,[405] and encourages UN-Habitat to provide regular updates to its Executive Board on the implementation of the recommendations of this review;

Ensuring adequate funding and improving information to monitor funding trends

4. *Encourages* Member States to provide voluntary additional financial resources to service the intergovernmental governance processes of UN-Habitat;

5. *Invites* Member States, international and bilateral donors and financial institutions to contribute to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary financial contributions, especially non-earmarked contributions, to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, including the urban basic services trust fund and other technical cooperation trust funds, invites Governments and other stakeholders to provide voluntary predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the implementation of its mandate, and requests the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to ensure that reporting on funding is transparent and easily accessible to Member States, including through the creation of an online registry that contains relevant financial information;

6. *Invites* all Member States making financial contributions earmarked for the operational activities of UN-Habitat to ensure that such resources are fully aligned with the strategic plan of UN-Habitat and are in accordance with the priorities of Member States benefiting from those contributions;

7. *Reiterates* the need to ensure that UN-Habitat has appropriate capacity to generate, manage and disseminate its evidence-based urbanization knowledge, based on its normative and operational work, building on existing international instruments, assessments and information networks to raise public awareness of critical, as well as emerging, urbanization issues;

8. *Also reiterates* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of UN-Habitat, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of UN-Habitat to implement its mandate;

Implementation of the New Urban Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

9. *Reaffirms* that, by readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed, the New Urban Agenda[406] will help to end poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions, reduce inequalities, promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in order to fully harness their vital contribution to sustainable development, improve human health and well-being, foster resilience and protect the environment;

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[404] A/77/310.

[405] JIU/REP/2022/1.

[406] Resolution 71/256, annex.

10. *Also reaffirms* the central role that cities and human settlements can play in sustainable development, and urges UN-Habitat to further support increased participation of governments at all levels and regional organizations in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda to contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular by providing technical assistance aimed at developing the capacity of all levels of government, especially in developing countries, to plan and implement sustainable urbanization and human settlements programmes and projects;

11. *Further reaffirms* that youth policies, tailored and adapted to national and local contexts, help ensure that youth development challenges are addressed, and encourages meaningful engagement with youth in urban policy and decision-making processes;

12. *Reaffirms* the importance of strengthening the capacities of cities to increase the integration of risk management into preventive urban development policy to create urban resilience;

13. *Also reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind and to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

14. *Recognizes* the importance of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the local, subnational, national, regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national legislation and practices, as well as policies and priorities;

15. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue its support to countries in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, giving consideration to evidence-based urban planning practices that promote access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing, inclusive urban prosperity and finance, effective climate action and environmental sustainability, multilevel governance and localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, and effective urban crisis response and recovery;

16. *Also encourages* UN-Habitat to continue to assist countries in monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, in complementarity with the Statistical Commission methodology for delineation of cities, urban and rural areas for international and regional statistical comparison purposes, develop a common methodology for aggregating subnational urban statistics, strengthen means of verification of new tier III indicators of targets under Sustainable Development Goal 11 on cities and communities, utilizing the Global Urban Monitoring Framework to develop innovative methods, approaches and guidelines for data collection, analysis, monitoring and implementation and harnessing the Urban Agenda platform to share progress, action and knowledge resources on sustainable urbanization, and looks forward to the contributions of UN-Habitat to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, under the auspices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in 2023;

17. *Further encourages* UN-Habitat to continue promoting and implementing the People-Centred Smart Cities flagship programme to ensure that the benefit of digital transformation is widely shared among all urban dwellers, especially those in vulnerable situations, living in slums and informal settlements, including through developing normative guidance and providing technical support to governments, cities and communities;

18. *Urges* UN-Habitat to ensure that its normative and operational activities are balanced, that its normative work guides and is integrated into its operational work and that its experiences in the operational field feed into its normative work;

19. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to accelerate the implementation of the United Nations system-wide strategy on sustainable urban development to facilitate coordination among entities of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, to ensure effective support for countries in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the urban and human settlements dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

20. *Also encourages* UN-Habitat to continue its collaboration with international development banks and the private sector to ensure coherence of policy support and the alignment of large-scale urban investments with the principles of the New Urban Agenda and to facilitate increased investment in sustainable urbanization, including through, but not limited to, the Multi-Partner Implementation Facility for Sustainable Urban Development, the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the Adaptation Fund and the Climate Investment Funds;

21. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to continue to work closely with United Nations organizations to promote joint urban programming at the country level, under the leadership of resident coordinators and in collaboration with the United Nations country teams, stakeholders and other development partners, to foster inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities, and to support country efforts towards the Sustainable Development Goals through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework;

Review and implementation

22. *Encourages* Member States to contribute to the special voluntary trust fund for the purpose of assisting developing countries to attend United Nations Habitat Assembly and UN-Habitat Executive Board sessions, and invites Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make financial contributions to the voluntary trust fund;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, to be entitled "Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)";

24. *Decides*, for its next consideration of this topic, to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

RESOLUTION 77/174

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 123 to 50, with 1 abstention,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/445, para. 14)[407]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Türkiye

77/174. Towards a New International Economic Order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity", as well as its resolutions 57/241 of 20 December 2002, 58/202 of 23 December 2003, 59/222 of 22 December 2004, 60/186 of 22 December 2005, 61/187 of 20 December 2006, 62/185 of 19 December 2007, 63/205 of 19 December 2008, 64/190 of 21 December 2009, 65/143 of 20 December 2010, 66/187 of 22 December 2011, 67/197 of 21 December 2012, 68/201 of 20 December 2013, 69/206 of 19 December 2014, 70/188 of 22 December 2015, 71/215 of 21 December

[407] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

2016, 72/203 of 20 December 2017, 73/220 of 20 December 2018, 74/202 of 19 December 2019, 75/204 of 21 December 2020 and 76/192 of 17 December 2021,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the economic advancement and social progress of all peoples,

Recalling the principles of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as set out in resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), respectively, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session, on 1 May 1974,

Recalling also its resolutions 63/224 of 19 December 2008, 64/209 of 21 December 2009, 65/167 of 20 December 2010, 67/217 of 21 December 2012, 69/227 of 19 December 2014, 71/236 of 21 December 2016, 73/240 of 20 December 2018 and 75/225 of 21 December 2020,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[408]

Recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[409]

Recalling also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[410]

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

Recalling the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the development goals and objectives contained therein, and recognizing the vital role played by those conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives,

Stressing the need to fulfil all financing for development commitments, including those contained in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[411] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[412] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other relevant outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits,

Noting that there have been systemic challenges to the global economic architecture, demanding a review of global economic governance, calling for the reform of the international financial system and the relevant institutions and the broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting and in global economic governance, in order to address the unique needs and capacities of developing countries when designing macroeconomic policies, recognizing that it is important that the

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[408] Resolution 55/2.

[409] Resolution 65/1.

[410] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[411] *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.

[412] Resolution 63/239, annex.

International Monetary Fund continue to be adequately resourced, and supporting and reiterating its commitment to further governance reform at both the Fund and the World Bank to adapt to changes in the global economy,

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 that the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have slowed progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and highlighted the interdependencies and vulnerabilities in the global economy, underlining the need for stronger international cooperation and solidarity, which are key to managing the COVID-19 pandemic and its recovery process and addressing other global challenges,

Acknowledging that inflation, slowing growth, the ongoing travel, supply chain and production disruptions, the serious dysfunctions in global food security and the obstacles to access to adequate terms of concessional and non-concessional financing to overcome the effects of the pandemic further endanger development prospects and contribute to a further divergence in recovery, in particular for all developing countries, including the most vulnerable countries and those facing specific challenges, and further aggravate their structural vulnerabilities that have been internationally recognized, inter alia, in the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

Noting with concern that the total external debt of developing countries increased from 6.5 trillion United States dollars in 2011 to 11.9 trillion dollars by 2021, and deeply concerned about the impact of high debt levels on countries' abilities to withstand the impact of the COVID-19 shock and to invest in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Recognizing the need to help developing countries to bridge financing gaps, including when it comes to disparities in financial costs and in access to technologies to fully achieve a digital transition, stressing that the financing needs of developing countries remain very high, and calling for the reform of the international financial architecture,

Concerned about the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and commodity prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change, which have a negative impact on the development prospects of developing countries and threaten to further widen the gap between developed and developing countries, including the technological and income gap, and which could further undermine the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

Concerned also, in this regard, that the proportion of workers living in extreme poverty, including workers in the informal economy, continues to increase, as does the proportion of the population living on less than 1.90 dollars a day, and that progress towards ending extreme poverty has been reversed by three to four years at the global level,

Concerned further about recent economic developments in the context of the continued challenges to achieving sustained economic growth, in which persistently high levels of inequality pose a challenge to robust growth and sustainable development, declining private investment in infrastructure highlights the obstacles to bridging the infrastructure financing gap and advancing the long-term financing of sustainable development, emerging debt challenges and vulnerabilities have intensified across developing countries, global exchange rate volatility has intensified and global inflationary trends have diverged, and that the weak prospects for the global economy put at risk vital public investment in education, health and action on climate change, as well as progress in poverty eradication, especially in developing countries,

Concerned that billions of the world's citizens continue to live in poverty and are denied a life of dignity and that there are rising inequalities within and among countries and enormous disparities of opportunity, wealth and power,

Stressing the lack of strong coordinated international response in dealing with the challenges referred to above, illustrating that the calls made in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order are still highly relevant,

Underlining the need for a more sustainable economic growth and recovery, and recognizing that this goal can be achieved through inclusive multilateralism and the equal participation of all countries, as envisioned, inter alia, in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Recognizing that innovative and enhanced approaches to financing for development are needed to address the challenges posed by the current global economic situation, poverty and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and stressing that these approaches should neither be a substitute for nor negatively affect the level of traditional sources of development financing, including official development assistance and concessional finance, and that they need to be developed in a spirit of partnership, cooperation and solidarity, bearing in mind the common interests and national priorities of each country,

Recognizing also that many relevant aspects of the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order have not been implemented and that, consequently, many developing countries continue to face significant challenges to their development prospects, including vulnerability to external shocks and lack of adequate representation in global economic governance,

Recognizing further the role played by regional, subregional and interregional cooperation as well as regional economic integration, based on equality of partnership, in strengthening international cooperation with the objective of facilitating economic coordination and cooperation for development, the achievement of development goals and the sharing of best practices and knowledge,

Recognizing that widespread financial deregulation has contributed to larger net capital outflows from developing countries to developed countries,

Noting with deep concern the impact of illicit financial flows on the economic, social and political stability and development of developing countries, resulting in the urgent need to adopt measures to combat them, which could enhance fiscal space for Governments to finance the achievement of the 2030 Agenda,

Stressing the need for policy space to allow for the formulation of national development strategies by developing countries, aimed at bringing prosperity for all,

Concerned with the increasing protectionist measures and adoption of inward-looking policies that undermine the multilateral trading system and increase the vulnerabilities of developing countries, and emphasizing the importance of promoting an open world economy and generating greater positive effects of globalization,

Emphasizing that multilateralism, including a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, is the most appropriate platform of international cooperation for addressing the challenges facing humanity,

Concerned about the financial risks associated with ongoing monetary policy adjustments in developed countries, which could induce instability in the international monetary system, leading to exchange rate depreciation and unsustainable levels of external debt in many developing and emerging economies,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[413]

2. *Notes* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[414] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[415] and the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[416] carry forward many of the ideas and recommendations of the

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[413] A/77/214.

[414] Resolution 70/1.

[415] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[416] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order[417] and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order;[418]

3. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working towards a new international economic order based on the principles of equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States;

4. *Reiterates* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

5. *Reaffirms* that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, as well as by respect for each country's policy space;

6. *Also reaffirms* the need to step up coordination of macroeconomic policies among countries to avoid negative spillover effects, especially in developing countries;

7. *Calls for* the fulfilment of the commitment to pursue policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors and to reinvigorate the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;

8. *Reaffirms* the recommitment to broadening and strengthening the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries, as well as countries and peoples under foreign occupation, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance, including the need to make the international financial system and the relevant institutions more responsive to the needs and concerns of developing countries;

9. *Also reaffirms* the necessity to respect the territorial integrity, national sovereignty and political independence of States;

10. *Calls upon* States to strengthen cooperation, including through relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant regional or international forums, to combat illicit financial flows in all their forms;

11. *Reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth, as well as the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and also reaffirms the critical role that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development;

12. *Expresses concern* over the increasing debt vulnerabilities of developing countries, the net negative capital flows from developing countries, the fluctuation of exchange rates and the tightening of global financial conditions, and in this regard stresses the need to explore the means and instruments needed to achieve debt sustainability and the measures necessary to reduce the indebtedness of developing countries;

13. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Sustainable Development Goals stimulus proposed by the Secretary-General and his calls for action for a new allocation of special drawing rights, which should be handled according to developing countries' needs, taking into account that special drawing rights play an important role in enabling developing countries to invest in recovery and the Goals, on the need for an increase in concessional funding from multilateral development banks and to reform the global financial system, which must include lending criteria that go beyond gross domestic product and provide a true view of the vulnerabilities faced by developing countries;

14. *Calls upon* Member States and international financial institutions to provide more liquidity in the financial system, especially in all developing countries, in order to make available necessary fiscal space and liquidity and help them to manage the unfolding crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic while achieving sustainable development, emphasizes the need to strengthen development cooperation and to increase access to concessional finance, and calls

[417] Resolution 3201 (S-VI).

[418] Resolution 3202 (S-VI).

upon donors that have not done so to fulfil their respective official development assistance commitments, particularly to least developed countries;

15. *Reiterates* the significance of addressing the constraints on technology transfer to developing countries, including the transfer of sound technology from developed countries to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms;

16. *Decides* to continue considering the international economic situation and its impact on development at its seventy-ninth session, and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", an updated overview of the major international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development and of the role of the United Nations in addressing those issues, as well as possible ways and means to overcome those challenges, bearing in mind the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and the principles contained therein, and the 2030 Agenda, in the light of the relevant principles contained in the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.

RESOLUTION 77/175

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 130 to 2, with 45 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/445/Add.1, para. 10)[419]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

77/175. Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/199 of 19 December 2007, 63/222 of 19 December 2008, 64/210 of 21 December 2009, 65/168 of 20 December 2010, 66/210 of 22 December 2011, 68/219 of 20 December 2013, 70/211 of 22 December 2015, 72/227 of 20 December 2017 and 74/228 of 19 December 2019 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Reaffirming 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,

[419] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

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 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 further the Paris Agreement[420] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[421] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the vital importance of an inclusive, transparent and effective multilateral system to address the urgent global challenges of today, recognizing the universality of the United Nations, and reaffirming its commitment to promote and strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the role and authority of the General Assembly on global matters of concern to the international community, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations,

Acknowledging that the United Nations, particularly the General Assembly, provides a universal and inclusive multilateral forum that confers incomparable value to its discussions and its decisions on global matters of concern to the international community,

Recognizing that, notwithstanding the opportunities and strong momentum to world economic growth brought by globalization, major challenges still remain to be addressed through multilateralism, and emphasizing the need to guide the direction of globalization and make it more invigorated, inclusive and sustainable,

Recommitting to setting out together on the path towards sustainable development, remaining devoted to the pursuit of global development and "win-win" cooperation, which can bring huge gains to all countries and all parts of the world, and reaffirming that every State has, and shall freely exercise, full permanent sovereignty over all its wealth, natural resources and economic activity,

Recognizing that globalization and interdependence imply that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders, that maximizing the benefits of globalization in an equitable manner requires coherent responses at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels and that there remains a need for a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

Emphasizing that globalization must give countries the ability and fiscal capacity to pursue domestic policies to improve the well-being of their societies, choose their own development models and pursue the Sustainable Development Goals in their national context, that it is a useful tool for development that should benefit all countries and peoples and that efforts by Governments to establish a national enabling environment conducive to implementing the 2030 Agenda need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment that is inclusive and mutually beneficial for their goods and services and conducive to investment for sustainable development, including investment in sustainable and quality infrastructure,

Reaffirming its strong support for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth into sustainable development, particularly the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and hunger and the reduction of inequality, and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other people in vulnerable situations, one of the central objectives of relevant national and international policies and national development strategies, including strategies to

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

[421] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including with the help of effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, as part of efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as its blueprint,

Acknowledging that globalization has brought many positive developments over the years and that it is credited with a sustainable period of economic growth, poverty reduction and job creation, higher living standards for many, innovative solutions for climate action and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals more generally,

Noting with concern that the gains from globalization have been unevenly distributed within and across countries and that globalization and the process of resource reallocation worldwide have left many people and countries behind, owing to, inter alia, rapid technological changes in the context of deep digital divides, inequalities in access to financial resources and evolving employment structures that have led to job losses,

Reaffirming that evidence shows that gender equality, women's empowerment and women's full and equal participation and leadership in the economy are vital to achieve sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity, that women play a critical role in development and contribute to structural transformation and that their full and equal participation in decision-making and the economy is vital in order to achieve sustainable development, and reaffirming also that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including those living in rural areas, will make a crucial contribution to progress in realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming also that the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge digital divides and to develop knowledge societies, as does scientific and technological innovation across areas as diverse as medicine and energy,

Reaffirming further the commitment to eradicate poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions and promote sustained, inclusive and equitable growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all and to promote the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more meaningfully and effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization,

Recognizing that the international multilateral system should continue to support sustainable development in all countries, particularly in relation to sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, job creation and the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and hunger and achieve environmental sustainability and resilience, and should continue to promote good governance and the rule of law at all levels,

Cognizant that the future prospects of entire economies and societies will depend on how effectively all stakeholders respond to the technological trends and challenges and to the interplay of those trends with other major trends, such as increasing inequality within and among countries, urbanization, the changing nature of employment, the rise of new forms of work and persistent economic informality, demographic shifts, climate change and the increasing magnitude of disasters and environmental challenges,

Recognizing that adverse and persisting impacts of climate change, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and its ripple effects and geopolitical tensions and conflicts, among other factors, are exposing and exacerbating vulnerabilities of the globalization process and creating additional challenges for the eradication of poverty, food security, energy security and the cost of living, and that developing countries are often disproportionately affected by challenges, and highlighting that the economic recovery has proved uneven, partially because of the lack of access to financial resources for developing countries,

Reaffirming multilateralism as the best way for the world to effectively overcome and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and prevent future health emergencies,

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,

Noting with concern that current trade tensions and a surge in trade-restrictive measures are greatly increasing economic uncertainty, and underscoring that prioritizing and strengthening global cooperation, including through multilateral solutions, are in the interest of all and remain crucial elements in fulfilling the promise of globalization,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the heightened fragility of the global economy and the declining trends in global growth and trade, including on development, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase, with many downside risks, including net negative capital flows from developing countries and rising private and public indebtedness in many developing countries, compounded by high interest rates and inflation, high unemployment and job informality, particularly among young people, women, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and people in vulnerable situations, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date in order to attend to those challenges and make progress towards sustaining global demand,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Fulfilling the promise of globalization: advancing sustainable development in an interconnected world";[422]

2. *Reiterates* the need for inclusive, transparent and effective multilateral approaches to managing global challenges, and in this regard reaffirms the important role of the United Nations system in ongoing efforts to find common solutions to such challenges;

3. *Recognizes* that a reinvigorated multilateral system, with the United Nations at its centre, is the cornerstone of a renewed approach to fairer and more inclusive and sustainable globalization to ensure that the negative consequences of globalization do not threaten peoples' livelihoods and the sustainability of the planet;

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to reposition the United Nations development system to better support countries with their implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[423] in line with the integrated and indivisible, global and universally applicable nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs, and cognizant that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, and calls upon all stakeholders to implement the remaining tasks swiftly and coherently throughout the United Nations development system;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for a Just Transition, launched by the Secretary-General jointly with the International Labour Organization;

6. *Reaffirms* the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and reiterates its commitment to strengthening coordination within the United Nations in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions in order to support sustainable development in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance, chaired and convened by the Secretary-General, take note of its briefs on the three-dimensional crisis, notes the important efforts undertaken nationally, regionally and internationally to respond to the challenges posed by the persisting risks to the global economy, and recognizes that more needs to be done in order to promote economic recovery and to

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[422] A/77/253.

[423] Resolution 70/1.

address, among others, turbulence in global financial and commodity markets, policy uncertainty, trade tensions, financial volatility, unsustainable debt and high unemployment in several countries;

8. *Encourages* Member States to advance economic reforms proactively, as appropriate, innovate the growth model and focus on the inclusiveness of development and, in the meantime, strengthen international cooperation and avoid inward-looking policies and protectionism, so as to promote an open world economy and generate greater positive effects of globalization;

9. *Recognizes* that globalization can be a process that enables sustainable development and that the 2030 Agenda is the road map for ensuring an equitable, inclusive, just, sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and for accelerating the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development and the full implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

10. *Underlines* that the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will also depend on facilitating the necessary means of implementation, particularly in the areas of finance, international trade, science, technology and capacity-building for developing countries, as well as appropriate national enabling environments, and in this regard calls for a sincere and effective follow-up on the global commitments of all actors;

11. *Also underlines* that equitable access to financial resources for developing countries is a precondition to achieve a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from the impact of COVID-19 on the Sustainable Development Goals and that strengthened international cooperation focused on the poorest and most vulnerable countries and populations is needed to respond to global crises;

12. *Notes with concern* that the mobilization of sufficient financing remains a major challenge in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that progress has not been shared evenly within and among countries, leading to further deepening of existing inequalities;

13. *Recognizes* the critical role of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology and investment for inclusive and sustainable development and the need to provide integrated policy responses to issues arising in these areas, including to address inequalities within and among countries, and also recognizes the importance of international cooperation, finance, technology and capacity-building to supporting national efforts in line with national priorities and respecting each country's policy space while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments;

14. *Also recognizes* the need for the multilateral trade, economic and financial architecture to incorporate and promote sustainable development and ensure greater coherence and coordination to promote an enabling international environment that facilitates the work of Member States in addressing, inter alia, poverty, inequalities and environmental challenges;

15. *Calls upon* all countries and stakeholders to support policies conducive to a globalization process that benefits all people and societies, including but not limited to strengthening financing for development, including innovative financing, development cooperation and the international financial, health and trade systems in order to, respectively, enable equitable access to financial resources for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic; strengthen global health architecture, pandemic prevention, preparedness and response and achieve universal health coverage; promote a universal rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization at its core, and correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions non-consistent with World Trade Organization rules in world agricultural markets; as well as achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in multilateral institutions and as beneficiaries of financing programmes specially designed in accordance with their specific needs;

16. *Recognizes* that the scaling up of successful policies and approaches in the implementation and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals needs to be complemented by an enhanced and revitalized global partnership and that this partnership should work in the spirit of global solidarity to support a truly universal and transformative global development agenda;

17. *Reaffirms* that the creation, development and diffusion of new innovations and technologies and associated know-how, including the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, are powerful drivers of economic growth and sustainable development;

18. *Recognizes* that digital transformation has the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, drive breakthrough progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and overcoming current disruptions in trade and supply chains and in this regard reaffirms the urgent need to close the digital divides and ensure that the benefits of digital technologies are available to all, by promoting, within and across countries, inclusive and quality access to information and communications technologies and broadband, while reaffirming that any use of digital technologies must protect and respect the same human rights that people have in line with relevant regulations;

19. *Reaffirms* the need to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed;

20. *Underlines* the significant potential of regional economic integration and interconnectivity to promote inclusive growth and sustainable development, and reiterates its commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and regional trade agreements;

21. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session an action-oriented report on the implementation of the present resolution, including concrete recommendations to accelerate the implementation of the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence".

RESOLUTION 77/176

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/445/Add.2, para. 8)[424]

77/176. International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 61/208 of 20 December 2006, 63/225 of 19 December 2008, 65/170 of 20 December 2010, 67/219 of 21 December 2012, 69/229 of 19 December 2014, 71/237 of 21 December 2016, 73/241 of 20 December 2018 and 75/226 of 21 December 2020 on international migration and development, its resolution 68/4 of 3 October 2013, by which it adopted the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007, 64/166 of 18 December 2009, 66/172 of 19 December 2011, 68/179 of 18 December 2013, 69/167 of 18 December 2014, 70/147 of 17 December 2015, 72/179 of 19 December 2017, 74/148 of 18 December 2019 and 76/172 of 16 December 2021 on the protection of migrants and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and recalling also chapter X of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[425] and Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,[426] 2008/1 of 11 April 2008,[427] 2013/1 of 26 April 2013[428] and

[424] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[425] *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.

[426] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[427] Ibid., *2008, Supplement No. 5* (E/2008/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[428] Ibid., *2013, Supplement No. 5* (E/2013/25), chap. I, sect. B.

2014/1 of 11 April 2014,[429] and the declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development, adopted on 1 April 2019,[430]

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further the New Urban Agenda,[431] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[432] and the political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage,[433] as well as major outcome documents in relation to countries in special situations,

Reaffirming the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 September 2016,[434]

Reaffirming also the Paris Agreement,[435] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[436] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[437] recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[438] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[439] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[440] the Convention on the Elimination of All

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[429] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 5* (E/2014/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[430] Ibid., *2019, Supplement No. 5* (E/2019/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[431] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[432] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[433] Resolution 74/2.

[434] Resolution 71/1.

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

[436] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[437] Resolution 217 A (III).

[438] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[439] Ibid.

[440] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

Forms of Discrimination against Women,[441] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[442] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[443] and recalling also the Declaration on the Right to Development,[444]

Encouraging States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[445] and to consider acceding to relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization, as appropriate,

Recognizing the positive role and contributions of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development in countries of origin, transit and destination, including by enriching societies through human, socioeconomic and cultural capacities,

Recognizing also that migration can increase social, cultural and economic ties between nations and can be facilitated by agreements within regional integration processes to reinforce education exchange, labour mobility and the portability of applicable social security entitlements and earned benefits of migrant workers,

Recognizing further the positive role and contributions of millions of migrants in responding to and recovering from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including as essential workers, and remaining deeply concerned that the pandemic has had a severe and disproportionate impact on migrants, including through increased COVID-19 exposure, discrimination, violence, job losses, wage theft, protracted family separation, and restricted or lack of access to health-care services and other basic services, including vaccines, social protection, education and child services, and being subjected to unsafe and undignified returns,

Recognizing the human, cultural, social and economic capital that diasporas bring, as well as their engagement and remittances in national development strategies, and in programmes to improve the financial inclusion and literacy of migrant workers and their families,

Recognizing also the positive contributions of young migrants to the sustainable development of countries of origin and destination, encouraging in that regard States to consider the specific circumstances and needs of young migrants, and noting therefore the importance of providing inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels, including technical and vocational training, so that all people, including migrants, may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities to become active members of society and contribute to sustainable development,

Recognizing further that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients, bearing in mind that remittances cannot be considered a substitute for foreign direct investment, official development assistance, debt relief or other public sources of financing for development,

Recognizing the potential of remittances to reduce poverty, increase access to education, health and improved housing, promote financial inclusion and increase the inflow of foreign currency, as well as ensure food supplies in rural areas, positively contributing to the sustainable development of countries,

Welcoming the fact that many countries declared remittances to be essential services and eased regulations during the COVID-19 pandemic, facilitated greater digitalization, offered incentives and abolished or waived transaction fees, expressing concern that, nonetheless, the cost of transferring remittances remained at 6.3 per cent during the third quarter of 2021, far above the Sustainable Development Goal target of 3 per cent or lower, and expressing concern also at the continued decline in correspondent banking relationships, due to de-risking trends, and its adverse consequences on low-value remittance flows,

Expressing concern that progress achieved in facilitating and harnessing the benefits of safe, orderly and regular migration is slow and uneven in many areas and that the COVID-19 pandemic has reshaped many aspects of

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[441] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[442] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[443] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[444] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[445] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

international migration and negatively impacted progress, and created new, and exacerbated existing situations of vulnerability for migrants,

Noting with concern that highly trained, skilled and professional workers from developing countries continue to emigrate at an increasing rate to certain countries, and recognizing in this regard the importance of investing in human capital development by promoting entrepreneurship, education, vocational training and skills development programmes and partnerships, and productive employment creation, in line with labour market needs, with a view to reducing youth unemployment, avoiding brain drain and optimizing brain gain in countries of origin, and harnessing the demographic dividend,

Recalling the determination of Member States who participated in the International Migration Review Forum to fulfil the objectives and commitments outlined in the Global Compact, in line with its 360-degree vision, guiding principles and comprehensive approach, by facilitating safe, orderly and regular migration, promoting the contributions of migrants at all skills levels to sustainable development at the local, national, regional and global levels, within the framework of the 2030 Agenda, and reducing the incidence and negative impact of irregular migration,

Recalling also that the Global Compact is based on a set of cross-cutting and interdependent guiding principles: people-centred, international cooperation, national sovereignty, rule of law and due process, sustainable development, human rights, gender-responsive, child-sensitive, whole-of-government approach and whole-of-society approach,

Recalling further the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the ten fundamental Conventions of that Organization, as well as the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches and dialogue on migration and development, and acknowledging that it has proved to be a valuable forum for holding frank and open discussions, including through multi-stakeholder dialogues, and that it has helped to build trust among participating stakeholders through the exchange of experiences and good practices and by virtue of its voluntary, intergovernmental, non-binding and informal character and the engagement of civil society actors as well as the private sector,

Recognizing also the role of Governments at all levels, including local governments, and the contribution of relevant local stakeholders, such as migrant-led organizations, in fulfilling national policies and programmes that have a direct impact on the well-being of migrants,

Acknowledging the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the global, regional and national levels, as appropriate, including at the level of the United Nations and other international organizations, in relation to development,

Noting the initiatives that promote constructive and forward-looking dialogue on international migration for sustainable development and aim to enhance international cooperation and to share best practices in the field of international migration, including the Group of Friends on Migration and the Global Compact Champion countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[446]

2. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen synergies between international migration and development at all levels, including the global, regional, national and local levels, as appropriate;

3. *Recommits* to ensuring full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, and supporting countries of origin, transit and destination in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances;

[446] A/77/236.

4. *Recalls* the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, adopted at the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 and 11 December 2018, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 73/195 of 19 December 2018;

5. *Notes* that the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is the first intergovernmentally negotiated outcome, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover international migration in all its dimensions;

6. *Recognizes* the positive contribution of migrants to inclusive growth and sustainable development and that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses and balanced approaches, and also recognizes that international migration is a cross-cutting phenomenon that no one State can manage on its own and that calls for global approaches and global solutions, as well as the integration of sustainable development, with due regard for social, economic and environmental dimensions, and should be addressed in a balanced manner through a whole-of-government approach and with respect for human rights;

7. *Acknowledges* the complexity of migratory flows and that international migration movements also occur within the same geographical regions, and in this context calls for a better understanding of migration patterns across and within regions, regardless of the level of development;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening joint analysis and sharing of information to better map, understand, predict and address migration movements, such as those that may result from sudden-onset and slow-onset natural disasters, the adverse effects of climate change and environmental degradation, as well as other precarious situations, while ensuring effective respect for and protection and fulfilment of the human rights of all migrants;

9. *Also recognizes* that the lack of access to quality education and economic opportunities, and inadequate investment as well as underdevelopment are among the key drivers that compel young people to leave their countries of origin in search of better opportunities, and therefore that it remains crucial to promote sustainable development, generate employment, bridge the digital divides and empower youth to fully participate in their societies;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of facilitating orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies, in line with target 10.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals;

11. *Recommits* to cooperating internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants, regardless of their migration status, and to supporting countries of origin, transit and destination in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances;

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the convening of the first International Migration Review Forum from 17 to 20 May 2022, and the endorsement of its Progress Declaration as a whole, without a vote, by the General Assembly in its resolution 76/266 of 7 June 2022, and in this regard encourages Member States to implement the following recommended actions to accelerate the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and to strengthen international cooperation on international migration:

(a) Build on promising practices to harness the benefits of safe, orderly and regular migration, including those that emerged in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, provide all migrants with safe access to basic services, regardless of their migration status, as well as continuity of care, COVID-19 vaccinations, testing and treatment in line with universal health coverage, to ensure that no one is left behind in achieving the 2030 Agenda, and in this context promote the meaningful participation of migrants in policy discussions on issues affecting them, including in the COVID-19 response and recovery;

(b) Accelerate efforts, at all levels, to integrate public health considerations into migration policies and incorporating the health needs of migrants in national and local health-care services, policies and plans, in ways which are transparent, equitable, non-discriminatory, people-centred, gender-responsive, child-sensitive and disability-responsive, and which leave no one behind;

(c) Promote the meaningful contribution of migrants to policy development, delivery and reviews, and recommit to fostering inclusive and cohesive societies, by strengthening the provision of information, support and services, which contribute to migrants' integration;

(d) Eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, systemic racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stigmatization, hate speech, hate crimes targeting migrants and diasporas as well as negative stereotyping and misleading narratives that generate negative perceptions of migration and migrants, including by reviewing, developing and implementing relevant legislation, policies and practices and promoting evidence-based public discourse, inter alia in partnership with local authorities, migrants, diaspora communities and the media, bearing in mind the role of migrants as agents of sustainable development and as rights holders, and protect freedom of expression in accordance with international law, recognizing that an open and free debate contributes to a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of migration;

(e) Respect, protect and fulfil the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, including those of women and children, regardless of their migration status, and address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognize the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants and ensure that their legislation and migration policies and practices are non-discriminatory and consistent with their applicable international human rights obligations, in order to avoid approaches that might create or aggravate situations of vulnerability for migrants;

(f) Develop national gender-responsive and child-sensitive migration policies and legislation in line with relevant obligations under international law to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all migrant women and children, in particular girls, regardless of their migration status, stressing in this regard the importance of ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the formulation and implementation of migration policies, while recognizing their independence, agency and leadership;

(g) Respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all migrant children, regardless of their migration status, including unaccompanied or separated migrant children, ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in all actions concerning children in legislation, policies and practices, including those related to integration, return and family reunification, as well as consider, through appropriate mechanisms, progress and challenges in working to end the practice of child detention in the context of international migration;

(h) Enhance international cooperation, especially by actions that accelerate the realization of the 2030 Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals, through a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, with the aim of eliminating the adverse drivers and structural factors that hinder people from building and maintaining sustainable livelihoods and fulfilling their personal aspirations, and so compel them to leave their country of origin;

(i) Strengthen their efforts to enhance and diversify the availability of pathways for safe, orderly and regular migration, including in response to demographic and labour market realities, and for migrants in vulnerable situations, as well as those affected by disasters, climate change and environmental degradation, including by working coherently across all relevant multilateral forums, conclude labour mobility agreements, optimize education opportunities, facilitate access to procedures for family reunification through appropriate measures that promote the realization of the right to family life and the best interests of the child, and regularize migrants in an irregular situation, in line with national laws, and providing migrants with access to information pertaining to their rights and obligations during all stages of migration, including information on fair and ethical recruitment, skills, qualifications, entry and exit requirements, living and working conditions, wages and benefits, and access to justice and services, among others;

(j) Strengthen their efforts to take legislative or other measures to prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons, including forced labour, in the context of international migration, including by intensifying bilateral, regional and international cooperation to investigate, prosecute and penalize trafficking in persons, as well as to ensure the effective identification, protection of and assistance to migrants who have become victims of trafficking in persons, not conditional upon cooperation with the authorities against suspected traffickers, including by providing access to gender-responsive and child-sensitive measures for their physical, psychological and social recovery and reintegration, facilitate access to justice, and avoid the criminalization of migrants who are victims of trafficking in persons for trafficking-related offences;

(k) Intensify joint efforts, including through international cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination, to prevent and counter the smuggling of migrants, in full respect for human rights, by protecting the lives and human rights of migrants, ensuring safe and effective access to justice for migrant victims of crime and ensuring that migrants do not become liable to criminal prosecution for the fact of having been the object of smuggling, notwithstanding potential prosecution for other violations of national law, as well as by combating the criminal activity and ending the impunity of smuggling networks, which put the lives of migrants at risk, and by enhancing pathways for safe, orderly and regular migration;

(l) Strengthen their efforts to cooperate for safe and dignified return and to guarantee due process, individual assessment and effective remedy, including by upholding the prohibition of collective expulsion in accordance with obligations under international human rights law, and to ensure that their nationals are duly received and readmitted, in full respect for the human right to return to one's own country and the obligation of States to readmit their own nationals, and accelerate their efforts in order that returning migrants are assisted in their sustainable reintegration process through effective partnerships;

(m) Enhance cooperation to address violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, and harassment against women migrant workers in line with obligations under international law and relevant labour standards, and to eliminate situations of vulnerability for women migrant workers by promoting decent work, such as minimum wage policies, by facilitating safe and effective access to justice, and by protecting and supporting victims and survivors of all forms of violence, including harassment;

(n) Accelerate efforts to ensure that all migrants have proof of legal identity and adequate documentation and that nationals have non-discriminatory access to proof of nationality and other relevant documents, including by strengthening identification procedures and documentation systems, including through digitalization efforts, as well as consular capacities and cooperation, including through technical assistance and bilateral or regional agreements;

(o) Continue their efforts to facilitate the mutual recognition of formally and informally acquired skills and competencies acquired by migrants, including by issuing documents to this effect as appropriate, support the skilling and reskilling of migrants and returning migrants, promote decent work opportunities, enhance international cooperation to allow for the recovery of earned wages, benefits and entitlements of returning migrants, and promote the sustainable reintegration of returning migrants by providing them with equal access to social protection and services;

(p) Redouble efforts to reduce the average transaction cost of migrant remittances, from 6.3 per cent of the amount transferred during the third quarter of 2021 to less than 3 per cent by 2030, including by adopting digital solutions for faster, safer and cheaper remittances, promoting digital and financial inclusion and accelerating access to transaction accounts for migrants;

13. *Encourages* Member States to integrate migration as a cross-cutting issue in national development plans, development cooperation and other relevant frameworks, and through the voluntary elaboration of ambitious and inclusive national implementation plans, in line with a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, and to expand international cooperation and partnerships to implement the vision of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, including through financial and technical assistance to developing countries, especially to African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries;

14. *Also encourages* Member States to give due attention to migration when preparing their voluntary national reviews in the context of the high-level political forum on sustainable development by, inter alia, including relevant data and indicators from the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, and requests the United Nations system entities to develop guidance for Member States in that regard;

15. *Encourages* the international community to increase the support provided to developing countries in the planning and conduct of their censuses to address the severe adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on census-taking around the world, as well as in the collection of data from other sources, including administrative records, household surveys and specialized surveys, including migration data, with a view to strengthening the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of public policies, while underscoring the need to scale up financial support, equipment and infrastructure and technical assistance so as to strengthen the capacities of national statistical offices and fill data gaps;

16. *Reiterates its commitment* to preventing and combating trafficking in persons, identifying and protecting victims of trafficking, preventing and combating migrant smuggling, as well as the activities of transnational and national organized crime entities, and protecting migrants from exploitation and other abuses, stresses the need to establish or upgrade, as appropriate, national and regional anti-human trafficking policies and to reinforce cooperation on prevention, the prosecution of traffickers and the protection of victims of trafficking, and encourages Member States to ratify, accede to and implement relevant international instruments on preventing and combating trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-ninth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "International migration and development".

RESOLUTION 77/177

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/446/Add.1, para. 8)[447]

77/177. Follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, adopted during the first part of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in New York on 17 March 2022, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 76/258 of 1 April 2022, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action,

Recalling also the progress achieved in the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[448] as well as where it fell short of achieving desired progress in the set goals and targets,

Affirming that the Doha Programme of Action is a new generation of renewed and strengthened commitments by the least developed countries and their development partners grounded in the overarching goals of achieving rapid, sustainable and inclusive recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, building resilience against future shocks, eradicating extreme poverty, strengthening labour markets by promoting the transition from informal to formal employment, enabling graduation from the least developed country category, facilitating access to sustainable and innovative financing, addressing inequalities, within and among countries, leveraging the power of science, technology and innovation, mainstreaming technology-driven entrepreneurship, bringing about structural transformation and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, through a reinvigorated global partnership for sustainable development based on scaled-up and ambitious means of implementation and diverse support for the least developed countries in forging the widest possible coalition of multi-stakeholder partnerships,

Affirming also that the Doha Programme of Action is grounded in six focus areas:

(a) Investing in people in least developed countries: eradicating poverty and building capacity to leave no one behind,

(b) Leveraging the power of science, technology, and innovation to fight against multidimensional vulnerabilities and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

(c) Supporting structural transformation as a driver of prosperity,

(d) Enhancing international trade of least developed countries and regional integration,

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[447] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[448] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

(e) Addressing climate change, environmental degradation, recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and building resilience against future shocks for risk-informed sustainable development,

(f) Mobilizing international solidarity, reinvigorated global partnerships and innovative tools and instruments: a march towards sustainable graduation,

and in the commitments and targets contained therein,

Affirming further the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including full respect for international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[449] and international human rights treaties, and emphasizing the importance of fundamental freedoms for all,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[450] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[451] the Paris Agreement,[452] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[453] and the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III),[454]

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, taking note with appreciation of the twenty-sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, hosted by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in Glasgow, in partnership with the Government of Italy, from 31 October to 13 November 2021, and also taking note with appreciation of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022,

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,

Recalling its resolution 76/216 of 17 December 2021,

Recalling also its decision 76/551 of 20 January 2022 on the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and its resolutions 76/251 of 28 February 2022 on the further modalities of the Fifth Conference and 76/258 on the Doha Programme of Action,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2022/19 of 22 July 2022 on the programme of action for the least developed countries for the decade 2022–2031,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004 and 67/221 of 21 December 2012 on a smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

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[449] Resolution 217 A (III).

[450] Resolution 70/1.

[451] Resolution 69/313, annex.

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

[453] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[454] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Recalling also its resolution 76/222 of 17 December 2021 on agriculture development, food security and nutrition, and the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2022 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2022 high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council,[455]

Recalling further the Twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Geneva from 12 to 17 June 2022, and the adoption of its ministerial declaration, as well as the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Barbados from 3 to 7 October 2021, at which the Bridgetown Covenant was adopted,[456]

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 74/270 of 2 April 2020 on global solidarity to fight the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), 74/274 of 20 April 2020 on international cooperation to ensure global access to medicines, vaccines and medical equipment to face COVID-19 and 76/175 of 16 December 2021 on ensuring equitable, affordable, timely and universal access for all countries to vaccines in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Recognizing that the least developed countries have been severely hit by the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic owing to the fragility of their health systems, limited access to vaccines, test-to-treat and diagnosis, and the slow pace of vaccinations, limited fiscal space, limited coverage of their social protection systems, limited financial and other resources, and vulnerability to external shocks,

Recognizing also that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences, the adverse impact of climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification, pollution and other environmental degradation aspects, rising geopolitical tensions and conflicts with widespread effects on people, planet, prosperity and peace affect the situation of food security, energy security, extreme poverty and inequality, global trade and market stability, which put the very viability of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 at great risk,

Recognizing further the contributions of migrants in mitigating the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in both their countries of origin and destination, noting with concern the significant socioeconomic consequences that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on migrant workers and refugees from the least developed countries, including those in the low-wage informal economy, and noting with concern that the prospects of upward growth rate of remittances are likely to moderate in 2022 in many countries, highlighting that promoting faster, safer and cheaper remittances and reducing to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances will have positive impacts on the millions of people who depend heavily on them,

Taking note of the 2022 Ministerial Declaration of the Least Developed Countries,[457]

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, as well as 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 the development of the United Nations system, and emphasizing the importance of their full and timely implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries[458] and on food insecurity in the least developed countries: options for a system of stockholding and complementary means at global, regional and subregional levels;[459]

2. *Calls upon* the least developed countries, with the support of their development partners, to take action to implement the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries,[460] including by developing an ambitious national implementation strategy regarding the Programme of Action and integrating its provisions into

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[455] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/77/3), chap. VI, sect. D.

[456] TD/541/Add.2.

[457] A/77/534, annex.

[458] A/77/73-E/2022/53.

[459] A/77/291.

[460] Resolution 76/258, annex.

their national policies and development frameworks and conducting regular reviews with the full involvement of all key stakeholders;

3. *Also calls upon* the least developed countries, in cooperation with their development partners, to broaden their existing country-level review mechanisms and report dissemination, including those for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the implementation of poverty reduction strategy papers, nationally determined contributions, United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks and the existing consultative mechanisms, to cover the review of the Doha Programme of Action and extend them to all least developed countries;

4. *Calls upon* development partners and all other relevant actors to implement the Doha Programme of Action by integrating it into their respective national cooperation policy frameworks, programmes and activities, as appropriate, to ensure enhanced, predictable and targeted support to the least developed countries, as set out in the Programme of Action, and the delivery of their commitments, and to consider appropriate measures to overcome shortfalls or shortcomings, if any;

5. *Invites* the United Nations system, including the governing bodies of the United Nations funds and programmes and other multilateral organizations, including the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund and other international financial institutions, as well as the World Trade Organization, to contribute to the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action and to integrate it into their programmes of work, as appropriate and in accordance with their relevant mandates, and invites those organizations to participate fully in reviews of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

6. *Welcomes* the work of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group for Least Developed Countries, led by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, notes the steps taken by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the High-level Committee on Programmes in supporting the coordination and follow-up of the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action on a system-wide basis, and reiterates its invitation to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the Chief Executives Board, to include the implementation of the Programme of Action in the agenda of the Board;

7. *Expresses deep concern* at the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the least developed countries, takes note of the statement dated 28 April 2020 of the Group of Least Developed Countries on COVID-19[461] and commits to supporting its implementation, as appropriate, and invites development partners, international organizations and other stakeholders to support the least developed countries in their recovery efforts and continued implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, further highlighting the need for greater collaboration and partnerships at all levels to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the fulfilments of the least developed country-specific targets, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda;

8. *Notes with concern* the estimates that by 2030 much of the world's poor will live in the least developed countries, which indicate that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is not on track, stresses the need for global support for the least developed countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as ensuring that no one is left behind, and further recognizes the importance of enhancing good governance at all levels by strengthening democratic processes, institutions and the rule of law, increasing efficiency, coherence, transparency and participation, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, reducing inequalities, protecting and promoting human rights, reducing corruption and strengthening the capacity of Governments of the least developed countries to play an effective role in their economic and social development;

9. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries, as the most vulnerable group of countries, need enhanced global support to overcome the structural challenges, as well as recent devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the deteriorating situation of food security, lack of access to finance and energy, and increased poverty, that they face in implementing the 2030 Agenda, and in this regard calls upon the international community to prioritize and strengthen support from all sources to facilitate the coordinated implementation and coherent follow-up to and monitoring of the Doha Programme of Action, the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in the least developed countries;

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[461] See A/74/843.

10. *Recognizes* that many developing countries, especially the least developed countries, are faced with significantly higher borrowing costs to finance the response to COVID-19, leading to a greater finance divide that can undermine the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

11. *Also recognizes* that significant additional domestic public and private resources, including at the subnational level, supplemented by international assistance and foreign direct investment, as appropriate, will be critical for the realization of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda acknowledge the centrality of domestic resources mobilization, underscored by the principle of national ownership;

12. *Welcomes* the commitment of development partners to ensuring the fulfilment of all their respective ODA commitments to the least developed countries, ensuring the alignment of aid with the least developed countries' national priorities and increasing the alignment of aid with the least developed countries' national systems and procedures, also welcomes the decision by the European Union by which it reaffirms its collective commitment to achieving the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for ODA within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda and undertakes to reach 0.20 per cent of gross national income for ODA to the least developed countries within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda, encourages ODA providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of gross national income for ODA to the least developed countries, is encouraged by those that are allocating at least 50 per cent of their ODA to the least developed countries and calls upon the development partners to continue their development assistance to the least developed countries in their efforts to overcome ongoing crises;

13. *Also welcomes* the global ambition to voluntarily channel $100 billion of special drawing rights to developing and least developing countries, calls upon Member States with strong external positions to consider the voluntary channelling of special drawing rights to countries in need, particularly to the least developed countries, in a timely manner, including through the International Monetary Fund Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust, welcomes the operationalization of the International Monetary Fund Resilience and Sustainability Trust as a new mechanism to voluntarily channel special drawing rights to provide affordable long-term financing to the least developed countries and other vulnerable countries, with due consideration to national legal frameworks, and also welcomes the ongoing exploration of viable options to voluntarily channel special drawing rights through multilateral development banks;

14. *Notes with concern* that the current provision of climate finance for adaptation remains insufficient to respond to worsening climate change impacts in developing country parties and recognizes the importance of the adequacy and predictability of adaptation finance, welcomes that the parties[462] urged developed country parties to urgently and significantly scale up their provision of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building for adaptation so as to respond to the needs of developing country parties as part of a global effort, including for the formulation and implementation of national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, also recognizes that many least developed countries face challenges in gaining direct access to international public finance owing to a lack of technical capacity, supports the provision of assistance to least developed countries in preparing bankable projects and creating enabling environments, and encourages further efforts to enhance access to finance;

15. *Welcomes* that the parties[463] urged developed country parties to deliver in full on the $100 billion goal urgently and through to 2025 and emphasizes the importance of transparency in the implementation of their pledges, also welcomes that they urged the operating entities of the Financial Mechanism of the Convention, multilateral development banks and other financial institutions to further scale up investment in climate action, and calls for a continued increase in the scale and effectiveness of climate finance from all sources globally, including grants and other highly concessional forms of finance;

16. *Underlines* the need for reinforcing the existing comprehensive multi-hazard early warning system and comprehensive multi-hazard crises mitigation and resilience-building measures, including comprehensive disaster risk financing strategies for the least developed countries aligned with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction as a key instrument to build resilience against and mitigate the impacts of various shocks, and the commitment to making the best use of existing initiatives, takes note of the call by the Secretary-General to ensure every person on Earth is protected by early warning systems within five years, and invites the Secretary-General to undertake, with the least developed countries, a comprehensive study involving all relevant United Nations

[462] United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and/or Paris Agreement.

[463] Ibid.

development system entities and other relevant stakeholders on the existing arrangements, lessons learned and gaps identified and to submit it to the General Assembly for further consideration;

17. *Calls upon* the developing countries, guided by the spirit of solidarity and consistent with their capabilities, to provide support for the effective implementation of the Doha Programme of Action in mutually agreed areas of cooperation within the framework of South-South and triangular cooperation, which is a complement to but not a substitute for North-South cooperation;

18. *Underlines* the importance of promoting an enabling business environment conducive to growth and development, the absence of corruption, a transparent and rules-based regulatory framework, simplifying business regulations and processes, reducing and streamlining administrative formalities, creating efficient national support mechanisms for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, improving supply chains, facilitating access to markets, reinforcing cooperation, building capacities to implement effective competition policies, and adopting open, transparent and clear regulatory frameworks for business and investment, with protection for property rights and land rights as appropriate and in accordance with national circumstances and consistent with international legal frameworks;

19. *Welcomes* the convening of the Twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Geneva from 12 to 17 June 2022, and the adoption of its ministerial declaration;

20. *Urges* the least developed countries and their development partners to make use of existing initiatives and programmes, such as the relevant ministerial decisions of the World Trade Organization on duty-free and quota-free market access for the least developed countries and on preferential rules of origin for those countries, as well as aid for trade, reiterates its commitment to increasing aid-for-trade support, in particular for the least developed countries, striving to allocate an increasing proportion of aid for trade to the least developed countries, in accordance with development cooperation effectiveness principles, welcomes additional cooperation among developing countries to that end, and encourages the least developed countries to mainstream trade in their national development plans;

21. *Recognizes* that the least developed countries face significant infrastructure gaps, including in the areas of transport, energy, water, sanitation and information and communications technology, and reaffirms the need to promote quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure and to enhance infrastructure connectivity with concrete actions and predictable financing, thereby maximizing synergies in infrastructure planning and development;

22. *Notes* the importance of the work of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries in promoting networking among researchers and research institutions, helping such countries to access and utilize critical technologies on mutually agreed terms, drawing together bilateral initiatives and support by multilateral institutions and the private sector, and implementing projects contributing to the use of science, technology and innovation for economic development in the least developed countries, recalls with appreciation the contributions that Bangladesh, Guinea, India, Norway and Türkiye have made, as well as the pledges made by the Sudan, and welcomes the preparations of the Bank to establish a joint project known as the Technology Makers Lab in the least developed countries, focusing on youth empowerment, capacity-building and skills development;

23. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries are especially vulnerable to and disproportionately affected by the adverse effects of climate change, environmental degradation and other disasters, and recognizes the high importance of building resilience in the least developed countries through stepped-up capacity-building and finance for adaptation to climate change;

24. *Recalls* the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and reaffirms that disaster-prone developing countries need particular attention in view of their high vulnerability and exposure to adverse climate change impacts, recognizes that the development and implementation of risk-informed plans, policies, programmes and investments are essential for sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, also recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has increased vulnerability to wider, growing risks, notes with serious concern the stark warnings contained in the recent report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and notes that the Sendai Framework provides guidance relevant to a sustainable recovery from COVID-19 and also to identify and address underlying drivers of disaster risk in a systemic manner, further recognizes the health aspects of the Sendai Framework, and stresses the need for resilient health systems;

25. *Recognizes* that the global level of food insecurity and its magnitude, complexity and multidimensional nature in the least developed countries calls for an array of responses employing all appropriate tools;

26. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Secretary-General, including with regard to a food import financing facility, a credit guarantee facility and a special food reserve system, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, on the basis of voluntary contributions, to carry out a study, with secretariat support provided by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in consultation with all relevant United Nations entities and taking into consideration and building upon the existing initiatives and programmes on food security, taking into account World Trade Organization members' existing obligations, in order to further assess the proposed recommendations for the least developed countries, outlining their modalities, terms of reference, governance and support structures, and to submit a report with his recommendations to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session for consideration by the Member States;

27. *Recognizes* that particular efforts are needed to ensure that all young people, including girls, enjoy equal access to lifelong learning opportunities and equal access to quality education at all levels, inclusive of early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary education, as well as technical and vocational training, notes with concern, in this regard, the lack of progress in closing gender gaps in access to, retention in and completion of secondary education, particularly for girls, recognizes the need to continue to provide and encourage, as appropriate, institutes of higher education to allocate places and scholarships for students and trainees from the least developed countries, in particular in the fields of science, technology, business management and economics, and to strengthen support for institutions in relation to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at the global, regional and national levels, and also recognizes that the least developed countries have the most to gain from sustainable development and utilizing the full skills and talents of their people, including women and girls;

28. *Recommits* to undertake feasibility studies to explore the possibility of establishing an online university or other equivalent platforms to support online graduate and postgraduate university-level science, technology, engineering and mathematics education in the least developed countries and recently graduated countries with a view to, inter alia, providing policy support to promote distance education and open learning for graduate and postgraduate studies in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, ensuring a 50/50 gender balance at all levels while guaranteeing special access for the poorest and people in vulnerable situations, creating a virtual network of educational institutions within and beyond the least developed countries, assisting in course design and curriculum development, and leading to scale and sustainability of the education system, taking into account all pre-existing initiatives developed by the relevant partners in a comprehensive manner, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to submit a report, outlining, inter alia, the mapping of existing initiatives, possible new modalities, resource requirements, accreditation and sustainable funding sources to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session for its consideration;

29. *Recognizes* that increasing participation, supporting the empowerment of women, youth and civil society, and strengthening collective action will contribute to the eradication of poverty and the achievement of sustainable development;

30. *Notes* the Transforming Education Summit convened and organized under the auspices of the Secretary-General in New York on 19 September 2022;

31. *Supports* the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries as a focal point for the least developed countries to strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacity towards building sustainable productive capacities and promoting structural economic transformation, also supports the Technology Bank in strengthening the science, technology and innovation capacity of least developed countries for structural transformation and productive capacity development, invites Member States, as well as international organizations, foundations and the private sector, to provide voluntary financial and in-kind resources to the Technology Bank in order to enhance its capacity and effectiveness, and decides to strengthen collaboration among Governments, the private sector and academia to advance science, technology and innovation research and development, build inclusive digital economies and bridge the digital divide, including by facilitating technology transfer on mutually agreed terms;

32. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implementing the decision contained in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for the least developed countries, reiterates the decision[464] to provide financial and technical support for project preparation and contract negotiation, advisory support for

[464] Resolution 69/313, annex, para. 46.

investment-related dispute resolution, access to information on investment facilities, improving enabling environments, and risk insurance and guarantees such as through the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to explore the feasibility of establishing an international investment support centre for the least developed countries in the form of a one-stop shop to mobilize support for the implementation of the investment promotion regime for the least developed countries and graduated countries, and to submit the study and recommendations to the General Assembly for its consideration at its seventy-eighth session;

33. *Also reaffirms* that achieving gender equality, the empowerment of all women and girls and the full realization of the human rights of all people is essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, and reiterates the need for gender mainstreaming, including targeted actions and investments in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies in the least developed countries;

34. *Congratulates* those countries that have met the criteria for graduation from least developed country status, notes with appreciation that 4 countries have graduated since 2011, another 4 have been designated to graduate by 2024 and 12 others have met the graduation criteria at least once, invites those countries to start the preparations for their graduation and transition strategy, and requests all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, led by the Office of the High Representative, to extend the necessary support in this regard, in a coordinated manner;

35. *Invites* the least developed countries and development partners to integrate graduation and smooth transition strategies into their respective national development and aid strategies, as appropriate, including capacity-building and technical assistance to diversify sources of financing, takes note of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development policy brief No. 99 entitled "Strategy for graduation with momentum: bridging pre-graduation and post-graduation development processes in the least developed countries" of April 2022, and welcomes the establishment of a Sustainable Graduation Support Facility as a concrete, country-led solution of dedicated capacity-development support, while calling upon Member States to support this initiative;

36. *Reiterates its conviction* that no country graduating from the least developed country category should have its development progress disrupted or reversed, welcomes the fact that the United Nations graduation process helps to ensure that no graduating country has its special and differential treatment measures and exemptions reduced abruptly, invites development and trading partners to consider extending to graduated countries trade preferences previously made available as a result of least developed country status, or reducing them in a phased manner in order to avoid their abrupt reduction, notes that the Group of Least Developed Countries put forward various proposals at the World Trade Organization, pertaining to, among other things, trade-related challenges and those related to the smooth transition of the countries graduating from the least developed country category and seeks to further examine these issues, and calls upon the development partners to continue to provide, as appropriate, special climate change-related finance and technological support to graduated countries so as to support action towards the achievement of the goals of the Paris Agreement and for a period consistent with their vulnerabilities, sustainable development needs and other national circumstances and emerging challenges;

37. *Recognizes* that the activities relating to the least developed countries carried out within the Secretariat need to be further coordinated and consolidated in order to ensure the effective monitoring and follow-up of the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action, led by the Office of the High Representative, and to provide well-coordinated support to realizing, inter alia, the target of enabling 15 additional least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2031;

38. *Also recognizes* that, over the years, the responsibilities of the Office of the High Representative have increased considerably in their scope and complexity and that, in addition to its original mandate, the requirement to undertake research and analytical work, monitor sectoral policy developments at the level of intergovernmental processes, follow up on actions taken at the national level, further strengthen the network of national focal points of least developed countries, develop operational guidelines for United Nations entities support to countries in conflict and post-conflict situations and support the graduating and graduated countries have increased;

39. *Underlines* that the Office of the High Representative should be provided with adequate resources to fulfil its mandate for the timely and effective follow-up, monitoring and implementation of the Doha Programme of Action and extending effective support to the least developed countries, and requests the Secretary-General to address the allocation of adequate resources for the Office in the context of the proposed programme budget for the year 2024;

40. *Invites* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the trust fund in support of activities undertaken by the Office of the High Representative to support the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Doha Programme of Action and the participation of the representatives from the least developed countries in the high-level political forum on sustainable development of the Economic and Social Council as well as in other relevant forums and the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, and in this regard expresses its appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

41. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the generous offer of the Government of Qatar to host the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Doha, notes the substantive and organizational preparations for the Conference, to be held in Doha from 5 to 9 March 2023, at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government, in line with the mandate specified in General Assembly resolutions 73/242 of 20 December 2018, 74/232 A of 19 December 2019, 74/232 B of 11 August 2020, 75/227 of 21 December 2020 and 76/216 of 17 December 2021, urges all relevant stakeholders to actively engage in the preparatory process, and looks forward to its successful and ambitious outcome;

42. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Secretary-General to convene a United Nations system high-level event during the Conference, with a view to ensuring the full mobilization of the United Nations system in support of the least developed countries;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative, to take the measures necessary to intensify their public information efforts and other appropriate initiatives to enhance public awareness of the Conference, including by highlighting its programme of action, objectives, key deliverables and significance;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and the Doha Programme of Action, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Groups of countries in special situations", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries".

RESOLUTION 77/178

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/447, para. 13)[465]

77/178. Promotion of sustainable and resilient tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environmental protection

The General Assembly,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[466]

Reaffirming 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,

[465] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Eswatini, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, North Macedonia, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

[466] Resolution 60/1.

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 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,

Recalling its resolutions 69/233 of 19 December 2014, 71/240 of 21 December 2016, 73/245 of 20 December 2018 and 75/229 of 21 December 2020 on the promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection, and its resolutions 65/173 of 20 December 2010 and 67/223 of 21 December 2012 on the promotion of ecotourism for poverty eradication and environment protection, as well as its resolution 76/201 of 17 December 2021 on sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central America and its resolution 74/214 of 19 December 2019 on sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central Asia,

Recalling also its resolutions 70/193 of 22 December 2015, entitled "International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, 2017", and 70/200 of 22 December 2015 and 75/223 of 21 December 2020, entitled "Global Code of Ethics for Tourism",

Reaffirming its resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 and 75/233 of 21 December 2020 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018, and welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to better position United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[467] adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, the latter of which, inter alia, highlighted the need to promote and integrate disaster risk management approaches throughout the tourism industry, given the often heavy reliance on tourism as a key economic driver,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement[468] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[469] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[470]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[471] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[472] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[473] the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[474] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on

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[467] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[468] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[469] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[470] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[471] Resolution 55/2.

[472] *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.

[473] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[474] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[475] the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[476] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[477] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[478] decision XII/11 of 17 October 2014 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on biodiversity and tourism development,[479] the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled "SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway",[480] the outcome document of the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[481] the proclamation of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystems Restoration 2021–2030[482] and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030),[483]

Stressing that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted and integrated approach in addressing its economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels,

Recognizing that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, is a cross-cutting activity that can contribute to the three dimensions of sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, including by fostering economic growth, alleviating poverty, creating full and productive employment and decent work for all, accelerating the change to more sustainable consumption and production patterns and promoting the sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources, promoting local culture, improving the quality of life and the economic empowerment of women and young people, Indigenous Peoples and local communities and promoting rural development and better living conditions for rural populations, including small-holder and family farmers,

Welcoming the efforts of the World Tourism Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to promote ecotourism and sustainable tourism worldwide,

Recognizing that sustainable consumption and production in tourism is aimed at increasing net welfare gains from economic activities by improving resource use and reducing ecosystem degradation and pollution along the entire tourism value chain, and that a systemic approach and cooperation among actors operating along the value chain, from tourism service providers, to adjacent communities, to tourists, can ensure the sustainability of the sector,

Recalling the adoption of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012,[484] recalling also the extension of its mandate until 31 December 2030, pursuant to resolution 76/202 of 17 December 2021 and the launching of the sustainable tourism programme of the Framework, and encouraging further implementation through capacity-building projects and initiatives to support sustainable tourism,

Recalling also the commitment contained in the Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being, adopted at the high-level segment of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Cancun, Mexico, on 2 and 3 December 2016, in which tourism is recognized as an enabling agent of change that can contribute directly to the conservation of sensitive areas and habitats through a variety of activities and by raising awareness of the importance of biodiversity,[485]

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[475] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[476] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[477] Resolution 65/1.

[478] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[479] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/XII/11.

[480] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[481] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[482] See resolution 73/284.

[483] See resolution 72/73.

[484] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

[485] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/24.

Welcoming the adoption of the first African Charter for Sustainable and Responsible Tourism at the meeting of African ministers of tourism held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 November 2016 on the sidelines of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which outlines the way forward for the application of the principles of sustainability and accountability in the tourism sector in Africa,

Taking note of the Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism and the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative and their role in accelerating climate action and advancing the tourism sector towards a sustained, sustainable and resilient economic growth pathway,

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,

Welcoming the holding of the high-level thematic debate on tourism on the theme "Putting sustainable and resilient tourism at the heart of an inclusive recovery", convened by the President of the General Assembly in May 2022, in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization, as an important milestone to work towards a concerted approach on tourism at the highest level, within the United Nations system,

Acknowledging that tourism is among the economic sectors hardest hit by COVID-19, stressing that the challenges require comprehensive solutions and international collaboration which contribute to strengthening policies and financial support needed to sustain the livelihoods dependent on the sector, reduce inequalities, eradicate poverty and safeguard the benefits of tourism, including coastal tourism, in order to promote a more sustainable tourism model based on social inclusion and the conservation and protection of the environment while prioritizing safety and public health and addressing the impacts of COVID-19 in sustainable development, taking note of the Secretary-General's policy brief entitled "COVID-19 and transforming tourism", the recommendations of the World Tourism Organization and the initiatives taken so far,[486] and calling for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery of the tourism sector from COVID-19 founded on building back better,

Welcoming the report on World Tourism Day 2022, entitled "Rethinking Tourism: From Crisis to Transformation", launched in Bali, Indonesia, on 27 September 2022, which charts the work of the World Tourism Organization in uniting the sector in the face of crisis, leading tourism's response and laying the foundations for a more inclusive and resilient future, with updates on work in every global region as well as in key areas, including gender equality, sustainability and climate action, tourism governance and investments and innovation, and recalling the first Global Youth Tourism Summit, held from 27 June to 3 July 2022 in Sorrento, Italy, to promote the engagement of young people in the development of sustainable tourism,

Taking note of the efforts made by Member States to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection as reflected in their national tourism policies and strategies, and stressing the importance of the sector becoming more sustainable, resilient, digital and accessible,

Emphasizing that rebuilding tourism after the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic is an opportunity for transformation, with a focus on leveraging its impact on destinations, fostering community-based models and building more sustainable, resilient and inclusive communities and businesses through innovation and public-private partnerships to foster investments in sustainable travel and infrastructure, targeted training and human resources development,

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[486] The global guidelines to restart tourism, the "Supporting jobs and economies through travel and tourism" initiative, the COVID-19 Tourism Recovery Technical Assistance Package and the One Planet Vision for a Responsible Recovery of the Tourism Sector.

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization transmitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations;[487]

2. *Recognizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, represents an important driver of sustainable, economic growth, social and cultural development, as well as decent job creation and entrepreneurship for all, which can have a positive impact on livelihoods, income generation and education, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status, and thus can contribute to the fight against poverty and hunger, and that it can contribute directly to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[488] and the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Also recognizes* the potential of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in eradicating poverty by improving economic livelihoods in local communities, generating resources for community development programmes and projects and creating employment opportunities;

4. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, the private sector and civil society, to place present and future generations' well-being at the centre of the recovery, enhancing collaboration between key relevant stakeholders along the tourism value chain, with recovery actions to be aligned with the needs of people, the planet and prosperity to accelerate the transformation to a sustainable, low-carbon and socially inclusive tourism path;

5. *Also encourages* Member States, the international community and the private sector to support the creation of long-lasting synergies between public health and tourism, not only for the competitiveness of the tourism sector but also as a natural barrier for future pandemics;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of supportive fiscal measures for the protection and promotion of economic efficiency and employment in the sector, during and after the COVID-19 crisis, encompassing investment and finance measures, strengthening governance and administrative capacity, supporting decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation for all, which create new momentum for economic growth and expand opportunities, including for women and young people, harnessing digital technology, innovation fostering training and building human capacity, for the successful recovery and resilience of the tourism sector;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to optimize the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits stemming from sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, in all countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries;

8. *Also emphasizes* that sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, can contribute to sustainable development, in particular to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources, and can improve the health and well-being of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including women and young people, and can create significant opportunities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the protection of natural areas by encouraging Indigenous Peoples and local communities in host countries and tourists alike to preserve and respect the natural and cultural heritage;

9. *Stresses* that the cultures, traditions and knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, in all their aspects, including women and young people, are to be fully considered, respected and promoted, as appropriate, in policy development for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and underlines the importance of promoting their participation in decision-making and all tourism operations that affect them and the need to ensure their free, prior and informed consent in the integration of their knowledge, heritage and values into sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, as appropriate;

10. *Notes* that the Secretary-General of the World Tourism Organization, in his report, invites Member States, international agencies and other relevant organizations to mainstream biodiversity conservation in the tourism sector and in climate change plans and strategies, intertwining economic, social and cultural elements with climate change adaptation approaches and the preservation of relevant ecosystem services;

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[487] A/77/219.

[488] Resolution 70/1.

11. *Underlines*, in this regard, the importance of establishing, at the national level, where necessary, appropriate policies, guidelines, institutions and regulations, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, for promoting and supporting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and minimizing any potential negative impact;

12. *Invites* Member States to enhance institutional coherence policy that supports funding mechanisms and initiatives for poverty eradication programmes and projects, including initiatives from community-based organizations and micro- and small private sector entities;

13. *Encourages* Member States to use sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as well as cultural and rural tourism, as a tool to foster sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and financial inclusion and enable the formalization of the informal sector, the promotion of domestic resource mobilization and environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger, including the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources and the promotion of investment and entrepreneurship in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, in accordance with their national development policies and legislation, which may include promoting the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and their resilience and formalization, promoting cooperatives and facilitating access to financing through inclusive financial services, including microcredit initiatives for the poor, women and young people, Indigenous Peoples, older persons, persons with disabilities and local communities in all areas, including rural areas;

14. *Encourages* the development of tourism infrastructure and the promotion of tourism diversification, including through public-private partnerships, as a way to foster job creation for local communities, the preservation of their way of life, culture and heritage and the promotion of the three dimensions of sustainable development, while simultaneously inviting Member States to take measures to protect the environment and the sociocultural heritage of a destination;

15. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations and the specialized agencies to support the coordination of regional and/or international sustainable tourism development frameworks, as appropriate, in order to assist countries in promoting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environmental protection;

16. *Underlines* the importance of ensuring responsible resource management, addressing the negative impacts of unbalanced tourism, respecting environmental and sociocultural capacities and conducting an environmental impact assessment that does not present additional cost commitments, in accordance with national legislation, for the development of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism opportunities;

17. *Stresses* the need to ensure the integration of sustainable consumption and production patterns in the tourism sector, including through identifying and adopting tourism-planning approaches aimed at improving efficiency in the use of resources;

18. *Encourages* Member States and other stakeholders to make use of the "Tourism for SDGs platform" launched during the 2018 high-level political forum on sustainable development as a partnership tool aimed at advancing the sustainable development of tourism and its contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals;

19. *Underlines* the need to foster resilient tourism development to deal with shocks, taking into account the vulnerability of the tourism sector to emergencies, and invites Member States to develop national strategies for rehabilitation after shocks, including through private-public cooperation and the diversification of activities and products;

20. *Emphasizes* the need for effective measures, in the context of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, to ensure the full empowerment of women, including the equal participation of women and men at all levels and in decision-making processes in all areas;

21. *Also emphasizes* the need for effective measures, in the context of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism initiatives, to help to ensure the equal participation of young people and women, persons with disabilities and older persons at all levels and in decision-making processes in all areas and to promote the effective economic empowerment, including through international cooperation, of women, young people, persons with disabilities and older persons in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, mainly through decent job and income creation;

22. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations system, in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals, to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as an instrument that can contribute to achieving those Goals,

in particular when it comes to eradicating extreme poverty and ensuring environmental sustainability, and to support the efforts and policies of developing countries in this field;

23. *Invites* Member States and relevant stakeholders to welcome the many opportunities that the new digital transformation of the tourism sector offers, and calls upon them, therefore, to foster smart solutions that integrate knowledge from traditional and non-traditional data sources, supporting related capacity-building activities and ensuring the long-term participation of local communities and the overall strengthening of a more holistic, evidence-driven approach to sustainable development in tourism;

24. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations system to provide support to tourism stakeholders at all levels in their efforts to acquire and utilize the expertise needed for the digital transformation of their businesses and destinations and to support efforts to enhance the available data with georeferenced, spatial components for the generation of more precise and timely information for tourism;

25. *Recognizes* the importance of investment in education and training, focusing on issues specific to tourism, in order to enhance competitiveness, and encourages regional and international institutions to provide adequate support to programmes and projects related to sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, taking into account the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits of such activities;

26. *Invites* relevant specialized agencies, in particular the World Tourism Organization, United Nations bodies and other organizations, to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, and to assist, as appropriate, in strengthening legislative or policy frameworks for sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, including those for environmental protection and the conservation of natural and cultural heritage;

27. *Invites* relevant specialized agencies, United Nations bodies, other organizations and multilateral financial institutions to provide technical assistance to Governments, upon request and as appropriate, in identifying needs as well as opportunities to improve the contribution of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, to poverty eradication, including through securing wider community benefits from sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities, as a viable and sustainable economic development option;

28. *Encourages* the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations, within existing mandates and resources, the public and private sectors and other relevant stakeholders to develop awareness-raising materials that target local development, the empowerment of women, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, youth entrepreneurship and innovation, and the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions in order to ensure the sustainability of the tourism sector and its contribution to a country's development objectives;

29. *Invites* relevant stakeholders to provide, upon request and as appropriate, technical assistance to assist in building the capacity, including for marketing and product positioning, of local communities, social and solidarity economy organizations and enterprises, including cooperatives and micro-, small and medium-sized businesses involved in sustainable tourism, including ecotourism activities;

30. *Recognizes* the role of North-South cooperation in promoting sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a means to achieve economic growth, reduce inequalities and improve living standards in developing countries, and also recognizes that South-South and triangular cooperation, as complements to North-South cooperation, have the potential to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism;

31. *Invites* Governments and other stakeholders to consider joining the framework of the International Network of Sustainable Tourism Observatories of the World Tourism Organization as a way to promote socioeconomic and environmentally sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, and to support better informed sustainable tourism policies around the world, mainly through the identification and dissemination of best practices and enhanced awareness of and capacity-building for sustainability among tourism stakeholders;

32. *Calls for* support and engagement from Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, notably the World Tourism Organization, financial institutions, the private sector, civil society and all relevant stakeholders to ensure inclusive processes when devising recovery plans and policy responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, in order to promote sustainable tourism as an enabler of sustainable development for local communities and to cater to the needs of populations and businesses, notably to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, for which tourism represents the main source of income, so as to diversify their skills, customer base and revenue streams, including through sufficient investments in skills development and training programmes, access to science and technology, promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources, to

strengthen approaches that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns, all of which have the potential to drive innovation in tourism towards sustainability and, besides mitigating its climate and environmental impacts, can result in sustainable management of scarce natural resources and fragile ecosystems, and calls upon all stakeholders to take into account that the resilience of tourism will depend on the sector's ability to balance the needs of people and the planet for prosperity;

33. *Acknowledges* that addressing challenges, such as the strengthening of health and hygiene measures to boost the safety and confidence of travellers and enhancing safe cross-border travel, continues to be relevant, and calls for strengthening public awareness about the important role of sustainable and resilient tourism for a country's sustainable development and the need to build more resilient and inclusive communities and businesses;

34. *Encourages* the holding of further high-level thematic events on tourism, to be convened, as in 2022, by the President of the General Assembly in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization, as a regular platform of consultation on tourism in the United Nations system, to build on the work already begun, with a view to advancing towards a concerted approach on tourism at the highest level and maximizing its contribution to the sustainability agenda;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-ninth session, in collaboration with the World Tourism Organization and other relevant United Nations agencies and programmes, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on ways and means to promote sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, as a tool for fighting poverty and promoting sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, taking into account relevant reports prepared by the World Tourism Organization in this field, unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 77/179

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/447/Add.1, para. 8)[489]

77/179. Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 72/233 of 20 December 2017, 73/246 of 20 December 2018, 74/234 of 19 December 2019, 75/230 of 21 December 2020, 76/218 of 17 December 2021 and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

[489] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

Reaffirming further the Paris Agreement,[490] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[491] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[492] and welcoming the convening of the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum, held in Katowice, Poland, from 26 to 30 June 2022,

Noting with concern the insufficient progress made in reducing the non-income dimensions of poverty, and noting with concern also that, after steadily declining for more than a decade, global hunger is once again on the rise, affecting as many as 828 million people in 2021, which represents an increase of 150 million since the outbreak of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and that conflicts, drought, flooding, the adverse impacts of climate change, food loss and waste and the COVID-19 pandemic, among other factors, have exacerbated the food insecurity situation in many parts of the world, with the poor and those in vulnerable situations, including women, girls, youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, refugees and internally displaced persons, and migrants being particularly affected thereby,

Recalling the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[493] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[494]

Recalling also the 2019 Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General, as well as the high-level political forum on sustainable development, the high-level meeting on universal health coverage, the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development and the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[495] convened under the auspices of 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 and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2020/23 of 22 July 2020, and welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[496] and recognizing the links between disaster resilience and poverty eradication and in this regard the need for a broader and more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk,

Recognizing that trade and development can contribute to the eradication of poverty and that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development therefore has a role to play in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

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

[491] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[492] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[493] *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.

[494] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[495] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[496] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

Recognizing also that the feminization of poverty persists and that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is an indispensable requirement for women's economic empowerment and sustainable development, and acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty,

Concerned that the global economy is still facing difficult macroeconomic conditions and that, in recent years, poverty reduction has started to stagnate in developing countries, owing to, inter alia, the global economic slowdown, conflicts and the vulnerability of States to climate change and disasters, noting the heightened international policy uncertainty with regard to trade and weaker global growth and that per capita gross domestic product growth in many regions is significantly below the rates needed to eradicate poverty, and reiterating that those left behind are becoming increasingly harder to reach, especially those living in rural areas and in vulnerable situations,

Noting with great concern the severe negative impact on human health, safety and well-being caused by the 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,

Noting with concern that the COVID-19 pandemic and geopolitical tensions and conflicts, among other factors, pose a serious challenge to achieving the Sustainable Development Goal of ending poverty by 2030, making the world's pledge to leave no one behind and to endeavour to reach those furthest behind first much more difficult to achieve, as the combined effects of the lingering pandemic and geopolitical tensions are expected to lead to a net increase of 75 million to 95 million people in extreme poverty by the end of 2022 compared with pre-pandemic estimates, with slower recovery to pre-pandemic trend paths projected in developing countries and with the drop in per capita incomes having a particularly adverse impact on low-income households, jeopardizing decades of progress in reducing extreme poverty and exacerbating already high levels of inequality, recognizing that, despite massive policy support, the estimated 8.5 trillion United States dollars in cumulative output losses during 2020 and 2021 may erase nearly all output gains of the previous four years, and that COVID-19 has laid bare the immense challenges facing the world, ranging from inadequate health infrastructure to the lack of universal basic social protection, making the implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) especially challenging,

Underlining that the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027), on the theme "Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty", is important for maintaining the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade towards poverty eradication and ensuring that markets work better for people living in poverty,

Reaffirming that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, that its adverse impacts undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development, that increases in global temperature, sea level rise, ocean acidification, biodiversity loss and other climate change impacts are seriously affecting coastal areas and low-lying coastal countries, including many of the least developed countries and small island developing States, and that the survival of many societies and of the biological support systems of the planet is at risk, which further threatens food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and thus requires urgent action to maintain, preserve and sustain the development gains achieved in the past decades,

Urging all countries that have not yet done so to ratify and accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[497] encouraging parties to review its implementation, committing to making the Convention an effective instrument to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and bribery, prosecute those involved in corrupt activities and recover and return stolen assets to their country of origin, as appropriate, encouraging the international community to develop good practices on asset return, expressing support for the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United

[497] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

Nations and the World Bank and other international initiatives that support the recovery of stolen assets, urging that regional conventions against corruption be updated and ratified, and striving to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows,

Committed to working to strengthen regulatory frameworks at all levels to further increase the transparency and accountability of financial institutions and the corporate sector, as well as public administrations, and to strengthening international cooperation and national institutions to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda, of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is an integral part, as well as an ethical, social, political, environmental and economic imperative for all humankind and 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, as well as countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, and underlining the importance of addressing the multidimensional nature of development and poverty and accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, including full, productive employment and decent work for all, with a view to reducing inequalities within and among countries,

Recognizing the importance of supporting countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and to promote the empowerment of the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including women, children and youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons,

Recalling the political declaration of the first high-level meeting on universal health coverage, held in New York on 23 September 2019, entitled "Universal health coverage: moving together to build a healthier world",[498] and looking forward to the convening of the second high-level meeting on universal health coverage, to be held in New York in September 2023,

Underlining the primary responsibility of Member States to promote universal health coverage that comprises universal and equitable access to quality health services and ensures affordable and quality service delivery, especially through primary health care and social protection mechanisms, with the support of enhanced international cooperation and with a view to providing access to health services for all, including those who are in vulnerable situations, and underlining also that women and children are particularly affected by disasters and outbreaks,

Recognizing the centrality of mobilizing financial and non-financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources, as well as the importance of policy coherence and a coordinated approach that involves participation at all levels by all actors to promote an enabling environment for sustainable development, and of reinvigorating the global partnership for sustainable development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the 2030 Agenda, which builds upon the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals,

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, recognizing that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth, supported by an enabling environment at all levels, including well-functioning, efficient and transparent tax systems, and acknowledging the important role that multi-stakeholder partnerships, including with the private sector, can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development,

Reaffirming that official development assistance remains an important source of financing for development in developing countries,

Acknowledging that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation, and acknowledging also the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and pursue sustainable development,

[498] Resolution 74/2.

Emphasizing the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty and supporting sustained economic growth and thus in contributing to achieving sustainable development in developing countries,

Taking note of the work done under the inter-agency, system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication coordinating the efforts of the United Nations system in its advisory and programmatic support to Member States, involving more than 21 agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and encouraging the alignment of that work with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[499] reviewing recent progress made in implementing the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027), assessing gaps and challenges in eradicating poverty and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, outlining a summary of work by the United Nations system to implement the inter-agency system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication and presenting recommendations for consideration by the General Assembly;

2. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening national statistical capacity and monitoring systems to ensure access to data that are of high quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, harnessing partnerships, fostering the global exchange of ideas and experiences and showcasing innovative and efficient initiatives and strategies to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities within and among countries and promote decent work for all;

3. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Third Decade is to maintain the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade and to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[500] and its Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 1, and their objective of leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first, as well as other internationally agreed development goals;

4. *Also reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and that the role of national policies and development strategies for the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication cannot be overemphasized, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership strategies and sovereignty;

5. *Notes* that the world as a whole is not on track to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030, and stresses the resolve to eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere as well as the efforts to reduce, at least by half, the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its forms and dimensions, according to national definitions;

6. *Expresses its deep concern* that, while there has been progress in reducing poverty, such progress remains uneven, with 1.3 billion people in 109 developing countries still living in multidimensional poverty, this number continues to be significant and unacceptably high, the levels of inequality in income, wealth and opportunities remain high or are increasing within and between many countries, and the non-income dimensions of poverty and deprivation, such as access to inclusive and equitable quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns;

7. *Recognizes* that, despite its devastating impacts, the COVID-19 pandemic offers an opportunity to put forward policies for an inclusive and sustainable recovery, including by promoting, inter alia, investment in agriculture, food security and nutrition, decent jobs, including sustainable job opportunities, universal health coverage, quality education and social protection systems to eradicate poverty, protect people in vulnerable situations, reduce inequalities and keep micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises afloat, with the support of multi-stakeholder

[499] A/77/176.

[500] Resolution 70/1.

partnerships, in this context takes note of the convening of the high-level event on jobs and social protection for poverty eradication by the Secretary-General, the Transforming Education Summit held in September 2022 and its Pre-Summit, held in Paris, the United Nations Food Systems Summit and its Pre-Summit, held in Rome, and the Tokyo Compact on Global Nutrition for Growth of the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit, recalls the Secretary-General's call[501] for a coordinated and comprehensive multilateral solidarity response amounting to at least 10 per cent of global gross domestic product, which can help developing countries to respond to the immediate health threat posed by the pandemic and its multifaceted effects, takes note of the fact that 60 per cent of people globally have been vaccinated against COVID-19 to date, and urges countries to sustain and enhance the momentum for vaccination especially for high-risk populations in the face of widespread lower disease risk perception, lower demand for COVID-19 vaccines from populations and emerging shifts in political priorities;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, including Member States and the organizations of the United Nations development system, including the funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in accordance with their mandates, to continue to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda and to urgently take measures to address the root causes and challenges of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger, and all forms of malnutrition, in the light of their negative impacts on sustainable development, through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at all levels, in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and calls upon donor countries, multilateral organizations and other development partners in a position to do so to support the effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard through predictable financial resources and technical assistance on bilateral and multilateral bases;

9. *Also calls upon* the international community, including Member States, to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches to overcoming poverty, and, in view of the negative impact of all forms of inequality, including gender inequality and inequality within and between countries, on poverty, emphasizes the importance of structural transformation that leads to inclusive and sustainable industrialization for employment creation and poverty reduction, investing in sustainable agriculture and developing quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all, enhancing interconnectivity and achieving access to energy, and improving access to financial services, as well as promoting decent work in the rural economy, improving access to quality education, promoting quality health-care services, including through the acceleration of the transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, providing affordable and secure housing for people in vulnerable situations, advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, recognizing, valuing, reducing and redistributing women's disproportionate share of unpaid work, expanding social protection coverage, climate change mitigation and adaptation and combating inequality within and between countries and social exclusion, especially of the furthest behind;

10. *Recognizes* that poverty reduction also requires increasing productive capacity sustainably, and in this regard recalls the 2030 Agenda, and recognizes the contribution economic growth and structural transformation through, inter alia, increased productivity and a healthy and well-educated workforce, can make in reducing poverty in developing countries, and in this regard recognizes the importance of strengthening cooperation, including by considering increasing the allocation of the necessary means of implementation, such as financing, technology transfers on mutually agreed terms and capacity-building, so as to, inter alia, accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrialization and digital transformation and expand the production of vaccines, medical equipment and agricultural and industrial goods and strengthen the services sector, with a view to achieving greater economic diversification and technological development and innovation, while promoting inclusive labour markets as well as decent job creation and prosperity, and generating fiscal resources through the implementation and promotion of inclusive economic public policies aimed at combating inequalities and eradicating poverty, in particular extreme poverty, to leave no one behind;

11. *Also recognizes* the urgent need to address poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity, which will lead to rich payoffs across the Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages the international community to enhance international cooperation and to devote resources to

[501] See United Nations, "Shared responsibility, global solidarity: responding to the socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19", March 2020.

developing rural and urban areas and sustainable agriculture and fisheries and to supporting smallholder farmers, including women farmers, herders and fishers in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries;

12. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, including organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to share good practices relating to programmes and policies that address inequalities for the benefit of those living in extreme poverty and promote the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies, with the aim of implementing the 2030 Agenda;

13. *Notes* the need to increase investment in human capital in order to strengthen the wage-based comparative advantage of workers, through the promotion of investments in inclusive social protection, quality education and training aimed at digital skills training, and decent job creation, especially for young people, women and persons with disabilities;

14. *Welcomes* the contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development, in this regard recalls the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019, and its outcome document,[502] 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, recognizes that South-South and triangular cooperation contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to achieving the overarching goal of eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and commits to strengthening South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of the outcome of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty of promoting and supporting the integration of decent work and poverty eradication into national and international policies, strategies and programmes, with a particular focus on those who risk being left behind, by, inter alia, implementing measures to formalize employment, consider introducing or strengthening minimum wages, guarantee respect for freedom of association and collective bargaining rights, combat all forms of discrimination in employment and end child and forced labour, including in agriculture and rural areas;

16. *Notes with concern* the continuing high levels of unemployment and underemployment, with 207 million people unemployed globally in 2020, recognizes that decent work for all remains one of the best routes out of poverty, in this regard invites donor countries, multilateral organizations and other development partners to continue to assist Member States, in particular developing countries, in adopting policies consistent with the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session, and takes note with appreciation of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for a Just Transition, launched by the Secretary-General jointly with the International Labour Organization;

17. *Also notes with concern* that, since the pandemic struck, more than 1.5 billion children and young people were affected by closures of educational institutions, with over 500 million children and young people estimated to have been left without access to remote learning options, and about 24 million students from pre-primary to tertiary levels estimated to be at risk of not going back to school, with a disproportionate impact on girls and women, the poorest and those in vulnerable situations, in this regard recognizes that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of learning and access to education and in order to enable millions of people to acquire skills for decent work, and takes note with appreciation of the reports of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity and the recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

18. *Encourages* the international community to support developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, the poor and people in vulnerable situations, with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established by the 2030 Agenda, which builds upon the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and addresses their unfinished business, improving tax systems and access to financial services, including affordable microfinance and credit, removing barriers to opportunity, enhancing productive capacity, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, encouraging the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, developing sustainable agriculture and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, emphasizing the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing workers from the informal to the formal economy, guided, as appropriate, by the Transition from

[502] Resolution 73/291, annex.

the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204), of the International Labour Organization, complemented by national efforts on effective social policies, including social protection floors, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), of the International Labour Organization;

19. *Also encourages* the international community to strengthen cooperation on food and energy security, noting that more international aid and cooperation in the distribution of food to countries in need may be required to avoid repeating the flaws in the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, and emphasizes the urgent need to rectify any trade-distorting measures that are inconsistent with World Trade Organization rules in world agricultural markets and to contribute to the facilitation of market access for products from developing countries, promoting a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization at its core in order to contribute to efforts to avoid a food crisis by ensuring that consumers have access to affordable healthy diets, in particular in low-income and emerging market economies;

20. *Reaffirms* that, while social protection has proved to be effective in reducing poverty and inequality, including non-contributory social protection programmes and cash transfers, coverage remains extremely low in countries with the highest poverty rates, also reaffirms that investments and innovation in the social sector, in particular in education and health, contribute to the alleviation of poverty and reduction of inequalities and enhance human resource development, and emphasizes the importance of ensuring that social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, are consistent with national development strategies, well designed, efficiently operated, responsive to shocks and sustainable in the long term;

21. *Stresses* the importance of taking targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, of implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, and of achieving substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable, and encourages Member States to continue to develop and implement social protection floors based on national priorities, paying particular attention to women, children, older persons, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities;

22. *Reaffirms its commitment* to embracing diversity in cities and human settlements, to strengthening social cohesion, intercultural dialogue and understanding, tolerance, mutual respect, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusion, identity and safety, and the dignity of all people, as well as to fostering liveability and a vibrant urban economy and to taking steps to ensure that local institutions promote pluralism and peaceful coexistence within increasingly heterogeneous and multicultural societies;

23. *Acknowledges* that good governance at the national and international levels and sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work for all, and social integration, rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and private investment, inter alia, public-private partnerships in a wide range of areas and entrepreneurship, are important for eradicating poverty, for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, and for realizing a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment;

24. *Stresses* the importance of using multidimensional indicators and developing transparent measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product in order to effectively reflect the reality of the populations of all developing countries, eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and reduce inequality everywhere, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda, and encourages the United Nations system to continue to support developing countries in capacity development in such areas as building national statistical systems, data analysis and disaggregation, policy formulation and the mainstreaming of the Sustainable Development Goals into national development plans and strategies;

25. *Recognizes* that social and economic development depends on the sustainable management of the natural resources of the planet, and stresses the importance of conserving and sustainably using oceans and seas, freshwater resources, forests, mountains and drylands and protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife, as well as promoting sustainable tourism, tackling water scarcity and water pollution, strengthening cooperation on desertification, dust storms, degraded land and soil and drought, promoting resilience and disaster risk reduction, addressing decisively

the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation and implementing the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;[503]

26. *Also recognizes* that sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment and by ensuring greater coherence among macroeconomic and social policies at all levels;

27. *Stresses* the importance of policies and actions that are not just gender-responsive but that actively seek to advance the goal of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls as well as to address longer-term structural issues, including structural constraints faced by women as economic agents, and to remove any barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, by, inter alia, undertaking legislation and administrative reforms, as appropriate, to give women equal rights with men in sociopolitical and economic decision-making and access to economic resources and to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, including through paid maternity and parental leave and the recognition, evaluation, reduction and redistribution of the disproportionate work burden of women engaged in unpaid work, including domestic and care work, encourages the private sector, in accordance with national legislation, to contribute to advancing gender equality by striving to ensure women's full and productive employment and decent work, equal pay for equal work or work of equal value and equal opportunities, as well as by protecting them against discrimination and abuse in the workplace, and underlines that globally, gross domestic product could increase significantly if every country achieved gender equality and increased participation of women in the formal labour force;

28. *Emphasizes* the reference in the 2030 Agenda to the need to ensure the significant mobilization of financial and non-financial resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, as well as regional, subregional and interregional cooperation, in order to provide predictable means for all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions;

29. *Stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty also hinge on the ability and readiness of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance commitments and use official development assistance effectively, and facilitate the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, also stresses that the resolution of unsustainable debt situations is critical for heavily indebted poor countries, while remittances, the transaction costs for which should be reduced, have become a significant source of income and finance for receiving economies and their contribution to the achievement of sustainable development;

30. *Welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of official development assistance and to increase its development impact, recognizes the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action[504] and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the implementation of their fundamental principles, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

31. *Recognizes* that domestic resource 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;

32. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources;

33. *Recognizes* that private business activity, entrepreneurship, investment and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive economic growth and job creation and that private international capital flows, particularly

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[503] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

[504] A/63/539, annex.

foreign direct investment, along with a stable international financial system, are vital complements to national development efforts, also recognizes that more can be done to create competitive business and investment climates in support of sustainable development that are well placed to attract private sector investment and participation, and encourages an increase in the volume, quality, in particular its alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, diversification and long-term nature of foreign direct investment to all developing countries;

34. *Notes* that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private, and through appropriately designed risk-sharing instruments, including co-investments, public-private partnerships and guarantees, and also notes that it can support improved tax collection, help to strengthen domestic enabling environments and build essential public services and can also be used to unlock additional finance through blended or pooled financing and risk mitigation, notably for infrastructure and other investments that support private sector development;

35. *Stresses* the importance of mobilizing greater domestic support towards the fulfilment of official development assistance commitments, including by raising public awareness, providing disaggregated data on aid effectiveness and demonstrating tangible results, encourages partner countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to achieve development goals and targets, also encourages the publication of forward-looking plans that increase the clarity, predictability and transparency of future development cooperation, in accordance with national budget allocation processes, and urges countries to track and report resource allocations for advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

36. *Calls upon* the international community to ensure that official development assistance and support for fiscal capacity are targeted and scaled up for developing countries, and to increase investment in the digital and care sectors, decent jobs and sustainable infrastructure, including in digitalization, data collection and trade routes, in order to eradicate extreme poverty and make sustained progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

37. *Welcomes* that, according to preliminary data in 2021, official development assistance rose by 4.4 per cent, compared with 2020, and bilateral (country-to-country) aid to the least developed countries rose by 2.5 per cent, but expresses concern that official development assistance was, on average, 0.33 per cent of the aggregate donor gross national income, below the commitment of 0.7 per cent, reiterates that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial and that, for many of the least developed countries and landlocked developing countries, official development assistance remains the largest source of external financing, and therefore emphasizes the importance of the commitments made by many countries to achieve the national target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and calls upon developed countries to deliver on their commitments in relation to official development assistance;

38. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to strengthen United Nations funding for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, through voluntary contributions to existing poverty-related system-wide funds;

39. *Welcomes* the ongoing work by the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the Third Decade, acknowledges the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication, in this regard emphasizes the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development in accelerating poverty eradication and effectively implementing the Third Decade, and that the organizations of the United Nations development system must be driven by national priorities, including through the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, with the development of national capacities and development strategies in developing countries continuing to be a core area of focus, and operate in an integrated, coordinated and coherent manner, through development programmes and projects that address poverty eradication as their underlying objective, within their respective mandates, in order to ensure that gains are irreversible, making full use of the interlinked and mutually reinforcing pillars of the United Nations development system, and encourages the use of diverse strategies;

40. *Calls upon* the international community to give priority to addressing the impacts of natural disasters, climate change, conflicts and major outbreaks of disease, which are severely hampering efforts to achieve poverty eradication, in particular in developing countries;

41. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the diverse needs of and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing many middle-income countries and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, and therefore requests the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that these diverse and specific development needs 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;

42. *Welcomes* the thirtieth commemoration, on 17 October 2022, of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, invites all States, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations concerned and interested national organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to consider organizing activities for the thirty-first commemoration, in 2023, of the International Day, in order to raise public awareness of efforts to promote the eradication of poverty and extreme poverty in all countries, and in this regard recognizes the useful role that the observance of the International Day continues to play in raising public awareness and mobilizing all stakeholders in the fight against poverty and promoting the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of programmes and policies that affect them, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the gaps, challenges and progress made in the implementation of the Third Decade, including COVID-19-related aspects, effects and response, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027)", unless otherwise agreed.

RESOLUTION 77/180

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/447/Add.2, para. 8)[505]

77/180. Industrial development cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/108 of 19 December 1994, 51/170 of 16 December 1996, 53/177 of 15 December 1998, 55/187 of 20 December 2000, 57/243 of 20 December 2002, 59/249 of 22 December 2004, 61/215 of 20 December 2006, 63/231 of 19 December 2008, 65/175 of 20 December 2010, 67/225 of 21 December 2012, 69/235 of 19 December 2014, 71/242 of 21 December 2016, 73/247 of 20 December 2018 and 75/231 of 21 December 2020,

Recalling also the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields,

Reaffirming 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 also its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 and its resolution 75/233 of 21 December 2020 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its general guidelines and principles, as well as its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018, and welcoming the ongoing

[505] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

efforts of the Secretary-General to better position the United Nations operational activities for development to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming further 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,

Recalling the necessity of a strong United Nations development system and an effective collaboration between the United Nations and the international financial institutions to achieve the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals,

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement,[506] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[507] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming also the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito in October 2016,[508]

Taking note of the outcome documents of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi in 2016,[509] and the fifteenth session, held in Bridgetown in October 2021,[510]

Recalling its resolution 70/293 of 25 July 2016 on the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (2016–2025), in which it underlined the need for the African continent to take urgent action to advance inclusive and sustainable industrialization as a key element of furthering economic diversification and value addition, building resilient and sustainable infrastructure, creating jobs, fostering innovation and thus reducing poverty and contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union Agenda 2063,

Recalling also its resolution 72/233 of 20 December 2017, in which it proclaimed the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) and emphasized the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty,

Recalling further the eighteenth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, held in Abu Dhabi in November 2019, and the Abu Dhabi Declaration,[511] and the fifteenth session of the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, held in Lima in December 2013, and the Lima Declaration: towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development,[512] in which the General Conference notably reaffirmed the unique mandate of the Organization and laid the foundation for its upcoming work to support member States in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development,

Recalling that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda recognized, inter alia, the critical importance of industrial development for developing countries as a critical source of economic growth, economic diversification and value addition,

Noting the ongoing efforts to implement the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, adopted in March 2022 at the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[513] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, adopted in September 2014 at the third International

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

[507] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[508] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[509] TD/519, TD/519/Add.1, TD/519/Add.2 and TD/519/Add.2/Corr.1.

[510] TD/541, TD/541/Add.1 and TD/541/Add.2.

[511] See GC.18/INF/4, resolution GC.18/Res.1.

[512] See GC.15/INF/4, resolution GC.15/Res.1.

[513] Resolution 76/258, annex.

Conference on Small Island Developing States,[514] and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted in November 2014 at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries,[515] and recognizing that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in achieving sustainable development and the need, among other things, for improved coordination and better and focused support by the United Nations development system,

Taking note of the Strategic Framework for Partnering with Middle-Income Countries[516] adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in its resolution GC.18/Res.9 of 7 November 2019,[517] entitled "Inclusive and sustainable industrial development in middle-income countries",

Taking note also of the Small Island Developing States Strategy 2019–2025 of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, acknowledged by the General Conference of the Organization in its resolution GC.18/Res.3 of 7 November 2019,[518]

Taking note further of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization strategy for post-conflict/-crisis situations,[519] which was taken note of by the Industrial Development Board of the Organization in its decision IDB.48/Dec.8 of 25 November 2020,[520]

Noting that inclusive and sustainable industrial development can effectively contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, integrating, in a balanced manner, the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Recognizing that multi-stakeholder partnerships and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important in order to mobilize and share on mutually agreed terms knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources and complement the efforts of Governments,

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,

Deeply concerned that the COVID-19 pandemic, owing to its severe disruptions to societies, economies, employment, including self-employment and entrepreneurship, global trade, supply chains and travel, and to agricultural, industrial and commercial systems, is having a devastating impact on sustainable development and humanitarian needs, including on eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, livelihoods, ending hunger, food security and nutrition, education, environmentally sound waste management and access to health-care services, especially for the poor and people in vulnerable situations, in particular in developing countries, including countries in special situations and those countries most affected by the pandemic, and is making the prospect of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals more difficult,

Acknowledging the industrial development reports prepared by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in which the Organization examines the future of industrialization in a post-pandemic world, structural change and inclusive and sustainable industrial development policies to improve the contribution of industry to

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[514] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[515] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[516] See GC.18/3, decision IDB.47/Dec.7.

[517] See GC.18/INF/4.

[518] Ibid.

[519] IDB.48/16/Rev.1.

[520] See GC.19/2.

sustainable production and consumption, social inclusion, gender equality, decent work, productivity growth, technology and innovation, and resource efficiency, including but not limited to energy efficiency,

Reiterating that each country has the right and the primary responsibility to define its development strategies in accordance with its national priorities and in line with the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, noting the past withdrawals from the membership of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, as well as the importance of member States in arrears fulfilling their obligations, and the potential impact on the Organization's capacity to deliver, and in this regard inviting all countries to align their support and development efforts towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Recognizing the importance for the United Nations Industrial Development Organization of continuing to reach out to all States Members of the United Nations and of encouraging them to consider joining the Organization, in the spirit of a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development and with a view to strengthening the means of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 9 and other relevant and interlinked goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda,

Recognizing also the importance of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in addressing the root causes of poverty by providing solutions, inter alia, for job creation, economic competitiveness and productive capability, through strengthening its efforts in promoting inclusive and sustainable development,

Noting with concern that the global crisis has slowed manufacturing growth in all least developed countries, setting back progress towards the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that the impact of the pandemic on labour markets has also been particularly pronounced in middle-income countries, which have long leveraged participation in production chains as a source of employment and growth and have experienced a decline of manufacturing employment by 8.9 per cent in 2020, higher than any other group of countries,

Emphasizing the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and supporting sustained economic growth, and thus in contributing to achieving sustainable development in developing countries, including the most vulnerable countries, and in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, while recognizing the significant challenges facing middle-income countries, and emphasizing further that countries in situations of conflict also need special attention,

Recognizing the diversity of ways to achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development and, in this connection, that each country has the primary responsibility for its own development and the right to determine its own development paths and appropriate strategies, in line with relevant international rules and commitments, taking into account different national capacities, needs and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities,

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging that building resilient, quality and sustainable infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, fostering innovation and achieving the interlinked targets of the other Sustainable Development Goals will be critical,

Stressing the importance of international industrial cooperation in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization, the creation of decent jobs, including for young people, inclusive economic growth, pollution control, knowledge networking, resource efficiency, access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy, gender equality and the empowerment of all women, and opportunities for all members of society to participate in economic activities and to address major challenges and issues such as poverty, climate change, shifting demographics and growing inequalities,

Stressing also that the creation, development and diffusion of new innovations and technologies and associated know-how, including the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, are powerful drivers of economic growth and sustainable development,

Underscoring the importance of using science, technology and innovation, and entrepreneurship to build and maintain resilient industrial infrastructure and achieve inclusive and sustainable industrial development,

Recognizing the potential benefits for countries to transform their economies to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, by engaging with partners to integrate or implement concepts such as circular economy and Industry 4.0 for more sustainable industrial activity and manufacturing systems, according to national plans and priorities,

Recognizing also the role of the business community, including the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the industrial sector, underlining the importance of the benefits of foreign direct investment in that process, and recognizing further in this regard that an enabling national environment is vital for mobilizing national resources, increasing productivity, fostering long-term and quality investment, encouraging the private sector and making effective use of international investment and assistance, and that efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community,

Emphasizing the important role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in industrial development, as well as public-private partnerships and entrepreneurship and innovation, in meeting the challenges of sustainable development, and in this regard underlining the responsibility of private actors to create new business practices and models by applying innovative market-based solutions to social and environmental problems that are inclusive, environmentally friendly, respect human rights, provide equal opportunities for all women, youth, persons with disabilities and older persons and integrate frontier technologies that characterize the new industrial revolution and offer opportunities for society, but also raise concerns, such as the future of work and widening inequalities within and between nations, and therefore the need for international coordination, knowledge-sharing and targeted support,

Highlighting the fact that ensuring inclusive and sustainable industrial development requires consistent industrial policies and institutional frameworks that are duly supported by the necessary investment in industrial infrastructure, clean technology, climate change action, innovation, environmental technologies and skills development,

Recalling the establishment, by its resolution 69/313, of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and the launch, by its resolution 70/1, of the Mechanism, and looking forward to further collaboration between Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations system entities and other stakeholders to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;[521]

2. *Notes with appreciation* the adoption, on 2 December 2013, of the Lima Declaration: towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development, and the adoption, on 5 November 2019, of the Abu Dhabi Declaration;

3. *Reaffirms* the indivisible and inclusive nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[522] while acknowledging that achieving inclusive and sustainable industrialization is integral to the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

4. *Recognizes* the unique mandate of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, within the United Nations system, to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development and the important contribution to be made by that Organization, in partnership with other relevant private and public entities and stakeholders, including new multilateral development finance institutions and funds, to strengthening existing partnerships and networks at the global, regional and subregional levels, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates, in supporting the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, including all relevant Goals and targets;

5. *Also recognizes* the contribution of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, international trade and economic institutions and all other relevant entities in supporting the promotion of inclusive and sustainable industrial development, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their

[521] See A/77/138.

[522] Resolution 70/1.

effectiveness and to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

6. *Further recognizes* that inclusive and sustainable industrial development can play a crucial role in the realization of other major development objectives, including the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, since through inclusive and sustainable industrial development policies and practices, countries can achieve self-sustaining economic and social development in an environmentally sustainable framework;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of industrial development cooperation and acknowledges the response of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in addressing the immediate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, through the provision of essential goods, facilitating access to critical supplies, including for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and ensuring that emergency measures designed to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic, if deemed necessary, are targeted, proportionate, transparent and temporary, and that they do not create unnecessary barriers to trade or disruption to global supply chains, and are consistent with World Trade Organization rules,[523] the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, enabling the creation of jobs, including sustainable job opportunities, supporting innovation and digital transformation to harness the full potential of new technologies, diversifying production, building manufacturing capacity and adapting infrastructure, moving towards sustainable consumption and production patterns in line with the 2030 Agenda, towards building back better and towards an inclusive, resilient and sustainable recovery;

8. *Reiterates* the policies, actions and objectives outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[524] to invest in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development to effectively address major challenges such as growth and jobs, resources and energy efficiency, pollution and climate change, knowledge-sharing, innovation and social inclusion;

9. *Recognizes* that the mobilization of national and international resources and an enabling national and international environment are key drivers for sustainable development;

10. *Underlines* the potential benefits, for developing countries, of stepping up their efforts to finance their own development by improving domestic resource mobilization and promoting financing, spurred by a robust and vibrant industrial sector, in order to achieve a long-term impact through local, national and regional ownership;

11. *Emphasizes* that each country must take the primary responsibility for its own industrial development, that national ownership and leadership are indispensable in the development process and that the role of national policies, resources and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and also emphasizes that it is crucial to maintain capacity for effective industrial policy design and implementation, consistent with international obligations, and thereby take into account the regional strategies and policies agreed upon, as appropriate;

12. *Recalls* the launch in 2016 of the Global Infrastructure Forum, led by the multilateral development banks, also recalls the forums held in Bali, Indonesia, on 13 October 2018, and in London, from 6 to 8 October 2020, and looks forward to relevant cooperation to advance the linkages among infrastructure development, inclusive and sustainable industrialization and innovation;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to promote, within its mandate of inclusive and sustainable industrial development, shared prosperity from industry, economic competitiveness and environmentally sustainable industry through its four core functions, which include technical cooperation; policy advice, research and statistics; normative functions and standards and quality-related activities; and partnership-building for knowledge transfer, networking and industrial cooperation;

14. *Recalls with appreciation* the Group of 20 Initiative on Supporting Industrialization in Africa and Least Developed Countries, launched by the leaders of the Group of 20 at its Summit held in Hangzhou, China, in September 2016,[525] which aims at strengthening the inclusive growth and development potential of Africa and the least developed countries through voluntary policy options, and looks forward to its implementation while urging the

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[523] See joint statement on open markets, the flow of essential goods and supply chain connectivity (A/74/863, annex).

[524] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[525] See A/71/380, annex.

Group of 20 to continue to engage with other States Members of the United Nations in its work and to ensure that any Group of 20 initiatives complement and strengthen the United Nations system;

15. *Reaffirms* that women play a critical role in development, contribute to structural transformation and are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequalities, that women's full, effective and equal participation in all levels of and during the entire decision-making process and in the economy is vital in order to achieve sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity and that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals, including in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

16. *Recognizes* the importance of further increasing cooperation to create synergies between inclusive and sustainable industrial development-relevant Sustainable Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goal 5, mainstreaming a gender perspective in industrial development cooperation and entrepreneurship, strengthening the empowerment of all women and girls, inter alia, through the exchange of best practices, mainstreaming gender in budget planning, gender lens investing, dedicated educational training and capacity-building programmes, increasing women's employment in decent jobs and market opportunities, and greater legal protection in the workplace to support women's economic leadership and mentorship, access to finance, technical assistance to women across value chains, especially in developing countries, the internationalization of women-owned and women-led small and medium-sized enterprises and the advancement of women's digital skills to scale up their contribution to inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

17. *Emphasizes* that national efforts should be supported by development partners, as appropriate, and need to be complemented by a rules-based multilateral trading system that facilitates trade and provides opportunities for developing countries that aim to broaden their competitive export base by strengthening their capacities, facilitating the structural transformation and diversification of their economies and enhancing the participation and integration of enterprises from developing countries, including micro- and small-scale industrial enterprises, into global value chains and markets, which can help to promote economic growth and development, while taking into account support for local and regional industrial development and value chains, as appropriate;

18. *Also emphasizes* the need for the international community and the private sector, as appropriate, to contribute to creating an enabling environment for sustainable industrial development;

19. *Stresses* that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems, and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, and that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies globally on mutually agreed terms, as well as capacity-building, are also critical;

20. *Recognizes* the importance of the role of the private sector, as well as the role of public-private partnerships, in meeting the challenges of sustainable development, and in this regard underlines the importance of strengthening existing and forging new partnerships and networks at the global, regional and subregional levels, including through South-South and triangular cooperation, and the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders towards achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

21. *Stresses* that a dynamic industrial and manufacturing sector is one of the many factors that can lead to narrowing income inequalities and to the development of social protection systems, as well as to reducing inequality within and among countries;

22. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to organize global dialogues and promote multi-stakeholder partnerships in order to actively pursue its important role in the achievement of inclusive and sustainable industrial development and to advance the linkages with infrastructure development and innovation for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals;

23. *Notes* the continuing cooperation of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization with the entities of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes;

24. *Underscores* the continuing work of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as a global forum to disseminate knowledge and provide advice on industrial policies and strategies, successful industrialization

experiences and best practices, as well as upcoming trends and challenges, as exemplified by the Global Manufacturing and Industrialization Summits, the Vienna Energy Forums and the Green Industry Conferences;

25. *Recognizes* the key role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in promoting sustainable industrial development and industrial innovation and mainstreaming science and technology into national productive systems;

26. *Encourages* regional, subregional and interregional cooperation as a platform for international industrial cooperation aiming to promote investments and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, to disseminate inclusive and equitable policies and practices, as well as to foster opportunities for high quality and decent work, including for youth and women;

27. *Welcomes* the alignment by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization of its medium-term programme framework with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycle, especially as set out in resolution 72/279;

28. *Notes* the Programmes for Country Partnership of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as a promising model to foster inclusive and sustainable industrial development for its member States, and looks forward to its continued expansion to achieve greater geographic coverage with due consideration to the specific needs of different countries, as stipulated in the Lima Declaration;

29. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to assist developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, in participating in productive activities through, inter alia, the development of sustainable agro-industry and agribusiness that improves food security, eradicates hunger, creates jobs and is economically viable, and in this regard encourages new donors to support the unique work of the Organization in these regions;

30. *Encourages* the promotion of South-South cooperation, triangular cooperation and the transfer, diffusion and adoption of technology on mutually agreed terms in building their engagement in international trade through the development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

31. *Also encourages* supporting sustainable industrial production and trade based on principles of local development, local content, the economic development and well-being, health and safety of workers, the meeting of international product and process standards as well as vocational skills and entrepreneurship training, particularly for the integration of women and youth into the development process and to respond to local skills requirements;

32. *Recognizes* that industrial safety gaps can cause significant damage to people, economies and the environment, and encourages setting and enforcing standards, developing governmental and corporate prevention strategies, providing training, outreach, education and technical assistance to address industrial hazards and avoid occupational accidents and work-related illnesses, while ensuring high productivity and efficiency of enterprises;

33. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to support developing countries, upon request and in line with their development priorities, in achieving enhanced levels of inclusive and sustainable industrial development by assisting them in building sustainable productive and trade capacities, including through support for policies in the context of job creation and poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and in building institutional capacities for promoting environmentally sound and sustainable production, including through programmes on resource-efficient and cleaner production, industrial water management, industrial energy efficiency and the utilization of affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern forms of energy for productive use, especially in rural areas, and through continued cooperation with United Nations organizations and other organizations in order to support the achievement of multilateral environmental agreements and promote global goals on access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, including on the expansion of clean technologies, including renewable energy and energy efficiency in industry, and to promote technologies including green hydrogen;

34. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, within its mandate and resources, and in accordance with resolution GC.18/Res.7 of 7 November 2019, adopted by the General Conference at its

eighteenth session,[526] to advance and accelerate the technical meetings and consultations for experts from member States on circular economy, with a view to facilitating exchanges on best practices and emerging innovations;

35. *Also encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue strengthening its role in assisting developing countries to create and disseminate knowledge by, inter alia, making use of its global network of investment and technology promotion offices, resource-efficient and cleaner production centres, centres for South-South industrial cooperation and international technology centres;

36. *Reiterates* the importance of promoting the creation and development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises as a strategy for achieving industrial development, economic dynamism, poverty and hunger eradication and job creation, including through the mobilization of resources and measures to foster sustainable and inclusive development, and in this regard recalls International Labour Organization recommendation No. 189 concerning job creation in small and medium-sized enterprises;

37. *Acknowledges* the importance of reporting on corporate sustainability, encourages companies, where appropriate, especially publicly listed and large companies, to consider integrating sustainability information into their reporting cycle, and encourages industry, interested Governments and relevant stakeholders, with the support of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to develop models for best practices and to facilitate action for the integration of sustainability reporting, taking into account experiences gained from already existing frameworks and paying particular attention to the needs of developing countries, including for capacity-building;

38. *Also acknowledges* the importance of expanding the industrial policy space available to developing countries for inclusive and sustainable recovery and for continued progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

39. *Welcomes* the ongoing support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[527] the African (Accelerated) Agribusiness and Agro-industries Development Initiative, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa and other programmes of the African Union aimed at further strengthening the industrialization process in Africa, and encourages the Organization to expedite the implementation of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (2016–2025) together with the African Union Commission, the African Union Development Agency, the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the Economic Commission for Africa through partnerships built with the private and public sectors, donors and United Nations and international specialized agencies;

40. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the World Bank and the regional development banks to support industrial development through financial programmes, and encourages the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to work closely with regional development banks on the implementation of their regional strategies, including with the African Development Bank on the implementation of their industrialization strategy for Africa;

41. *Stresses* the importance of the activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, within its mandate, to support the efforts of middle-income countries to achieve a robust industrial transformation, including through the deployment of new technologies, the application of sustainable patterns promoting skills development, including in the use of the digital economy for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, reduce inequalities and achieve sustainable development using, inter alia, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization Strategic Framework for Partnering with Middle-Income Countries, and also stresses the need to increase the access of developing countries to the means of implementation, including capacity-building, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and financial support;

42. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to support, within its mandate, the periodic review of Sustainable Development Goal 9, on building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation, during the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

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[526] See GC.18/INF/4.

[527] A/57/304, annex.

43. *Also encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to contribute to the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields through technological solutions provided by inclusive and sustainable industrial development;

44. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Industrial development cooperation".

RESOLUTION 77/181

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/447/Add.3, para. 14)[528]

77/181. Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/104 of 20 December 1995, 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999, 56/188 of 21 December 2001, 58/206 of 23 December 2003, 59/248 of 22 December 2004, 60/210 of 22 December 2005, 62/206 of 19 December 2007, 64/217 of 21 December 2009, 66/216 of 22 December 2011, 68/227 of 20 December 2013, 69/236 of 19 December 2014, 70/219 of 22 December 2015, 72/234 of 20 December 2017 and 74/235 of 19 December 2019 and all its other resolutions on women in development, and the resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as the declarations adopted at its forty-ninth,[529] fifty-fourth,[530] fifty-ninth[531] and sixty-fourth sessions,[532]

Reaffirming 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,

Welcoming and reaffirming the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including through the Sustainable Development Goal on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls, and recognizing that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and the full, equal and effective participation of women in decision-making and policymaking is necessary and will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda,

Recalling the commitment of completing the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals, including those related to maternal health and maternal mortality,

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[528] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[529] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and E/2005/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[530] Ibid., *2010, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and E/2010/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[531] Ibid., *2015, Supplement No. 7* (E/2015/27), chap. I, sect. C.

[532] Ibid., *2020, Supplement No. 7* (E/2020/27), chap. I, sect. A.

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, by which it endorsed 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 recognition in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and women's full and equal participation and leadership in the economy are vital to the achievement of sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity, and the commitment to enable women's equal access to decision-making processes and leadership,

Reaffirming further the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[533] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[534] while noting with appreciation the adoption of the political declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and acknowledging the progress made since then, and the international commitments made at relevant United Nations summits and conferences in the area of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[535] and the key actions for its further implementation,[536]

Reaffirming the importance of supporting Agenda 2063, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, its continental programme, embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development[537] and regional initiatives, which promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

Reaffirming also the Paris Agreement[538] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[539] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Noting the importance of ensuring the respect, promotion and consideration of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, in accordance with the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan, and recognizing that the full, meaningful and equal participation and leadership of women is vital for achieving long-term climate goals,

Reaffirming the political declaration of the 2019 high-level meeting on universal health coverage,[540] which recognizes that universal health coverage is fundamental to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including achieving gender equality and women's empowerment, and looking forward to the high-level meeting on universal health coverage in 2023 in New York, which aims to undertake a comprehensive review on the implementation of the declaration to identify gaps and solutions to accelerate progress towards the achievement of universal health coverage by 2030 and which also presents an opportunity to reinvigorate political momentum and build commitment in this regard,

Recalling its resolution 75/233 of 21 December 2020 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, which reaffirms that promoting gender equality

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[533] *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.

[534] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[535] *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.

[536] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[537] A/57/304, annex.

[538] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[539] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[540] Resolution 74/2.

and the empowerment of all women and girls, in accordance with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of relevant United Nations conferences and resolutions of the General Assembly, including through investing in the development of all women and girls and promoting their economic, social and political empowerment and full, equal and meaningful participation and equal access to leadership and representation at all levels, and promotion of equal access to and control over economic and productive resources, decent work, social protection, inclusive and equitable quality education, health and technology, addressing barriers to their empowerment and their realization and enjoyment of their human rights, including the need to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, is of fundamental importance and has a multiplier effect for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in facilitating the advancement and empowerment of women in development, in line with resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reiterating the importance and value of the mandate of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), welcoming the leadership of UN-Women in providing a strong voice for women and girls at all levels, and reaffirming its important role in leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Strongly condemning the persistence and pervasiveness of violence against women and girls, stressing the need to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spaces, both online and offline, including sexual and gender-based violence, and encouraging Member States to respond to all forms of violence against women and girls through multisectoral and coordinated approaches and to end impunity and to adopt specific preventive measures to protect women, youth and children from any form of abuse, including sexual abuse, harassment, exploitation, trafficking and violence,

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 that, with the COVID-19 pandemic, the global economy has faced unprecedented challenges and uncertainties even after a decade of crisis, indebtedness, fiscal austerity and deepening inequalities in the wake of the great recession, and that the economic, social and health ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic leave women and girls in particular further behind, recognizing also that COVID-19-induced poverty deepened as a result of waves of virus resurgence, lack of global vaccination, soaring debt levels, rising food prices, massive losses of job and livelihoods – especially among women in the informal sector – and weakened social protection systems that left the poorest behind, and noting with concern that the COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted progress towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and that it threatens to undermine progress towards the fulfilment of their human rights,

Underlining that, globally, the gross domestic product growth rate could increase significantly if every country achieved gender equality and the full participation of women in the workforce, and recognizing that the economic and social losses owing to a lack of progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls are significant,

Reaffirming the provisions concerning the pursuit of full and productive employment and access to decent work and social protection for all in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[541] and calling upon States to adopt forward-looking macroeconomic policies that promote sustainable

[541] Resolution 66/288, annex.

development and lead to sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, increase productive employment opportunities and promote agricultural and industrial development,

Recognizing that the economic empowerment, inclusion and development of Indigenous women, including through the establishment of Indigenous-owned businesses, can enable them to improve their social, cultural, civil and political engagement, achieve greater economic independence and build more sustainable and resilient communities, and notes the contribution of Indigenous Peoples to the economy,

Recognizing that men and women workers should have equal access to inclusive and equitable quality education, skills training, lifelong learning opportunities, health-care services, including mental health and psychological support, social security, fundamental rights at work, social and legal protections, including occupational safety and health, and decent work opportunities, as well as, inter alia, equal pay for equal work or work of equal value and equal opportunities for employment, leadership positions and decision-making at all levels,

Recognizing also that, in general, women and girls undertake a disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work and that women spend less time in paid work, and that this unequal distribution of unpaid care and domestic work contributes to greater time burdens on women and substantially limits their participation in the social, political and economic spheres, and acknowledging the need to implement concrete measures to recognize, reduce and equitably redistribute the disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work done by women, including through the promotion of the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men and by prioritizing, inter alia, social protection policies and resilient infrastructure development, as well as rewarding and representing paid care workers, including through improved wages and working conditions,

Recognizing the role and contribution of women in inclusive economic growth, including through micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, equal access to financing, and the importance of skills development training for women on micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and recognizing further that all women and girls play a vital role as agents of change for development,

Noting with concern that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by natural disasters, the unprecedented biodiversity loss and land degradation, desertification, deforestation, the adverse impact of climate change and other environmental issues that have a differentiated impact on women and girls, owing to gender inequality and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods, emphasizing the need to address disaster risk reduction and strengthen resilience with a renewed sense of urgency in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, recognizing the need to better understand the effects of natural disasters on women and girls and to reduce their vulnerability by increasing their access to information and facilitating more effective protection, assistance and evacuation measures, and recognizing that they should therefore be meaningfully engaged, as appropriate, in efforts to address such matters,

Reaffirming that in nutrition and other related policies special attention should be paid to the empowerment of women and girls, thereby contributing to women's full and equal access to social protection and resources, including income, agricultural inputs, land, water, finance, education, training, science and technology and health-care services, thus promoting food security and nutrition, as well as health,

Recognizing that the feminization of poverty persists and that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is an indispensable requirement for women's economic empowerment and sustainable development, and recognizing also the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing also, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, for women and girls, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and fundamental freedoms in order to achieve gender equality and the advancement and empowerment of women and girls,

Recognizing further the challenges and obstacles to changing discriminatory attitudes, negative social norms and gender stereotypes, which perpetuate multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination against women and girls and stereotypical roles of men and women, and stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of international standards and norms to eliminate gender inequality,

Recognizing that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing also that peace is inextricably linked to gender equality and the empowerment of women and to development,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental and the wish to see the Sustainable Development Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[542]

2. *Reaffirms* that the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, that the achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full human rights and opportunities, that women and girls must enjoy equal access to quality education, economic resources and political participation, as well as equal opportunities with men and boys for employment, leadership positions and decision-making at all levels, that it will work for a significant increase in investments to close the gender gap and strengthen support for institutions in relation to gender equality and the empowerment of women at the global, regional and national levels, that all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls will be eliminated, including through the engagement of men and boys, and that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[543] is crucial;

3. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to promoting social inclusion in domestic policies and to promoting and enforcing non-discriminatory laws, social infrastructure and policies for sustainable development, as well as to enabling women's full, equal and effective participation in the economy and decision-making processes and leadership at all levels and in all sectors, and supporting and investing in providing skills development, training, certification, financing and investment opportunities for women;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to link policies on economic, social and environmental development to ensure that all people, in particular women and children living in poverty and in vulnerable situations, benefit from inclusive economic growth and development, and also emphasizes the need to work towards the full and timely implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[544] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development[545] and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;[546]

5. *Reaffirms* that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls and the full realization of their human rights, including the right to development, are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, reiterates the need for gender mainstreaming, including targeted actions and investments in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies, and further reaffirms the commitment to adopting and strengthening sound policies and enforceable legislation and transformative actions for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at all levels to ensure women's equal rights, access and opportunities for participation and leadership in the economy and to eliminate gender-based violence and discrimination in all its forms;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the creation by Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all areas of life for the effective integration of women and girls in development, supporting and investing in women's employment and enterprises in sectors adversely affected, especially by the COVID-19 pandemic, and disseminating a gender analysis of legislation, policies and programmes related to macroeconomic stability, recovery measures, structural reform, taxation, investments, including foreign direct investment, and all relevant sectors of the economy;

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[542] A/77/243.

[543] Resolution 70/1.

[544] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[545] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[546] *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.

7. *Recognizes* the importance of the full engagement of men and boys as strategic partners, allies, agents and beneficiaries of change for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and commits to taking measures to fully engage men and boys in efforts to achieve the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, the declarations adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women on the occasions of the tenth,[547] fifteenth,[548] twentieth[549] and twenty-fifth[550] anniversaries of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the 2030 Agenda;

8. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fulfil their respective commitments to intensify their contributions to the implementation and follow-up of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, as well as the outcomes of their reviews;

9. *Recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and poverty eradication, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, participatory, comprehensive, gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues in order to ensure an adequate standard of living for women and girls throughout the life cycle, including through social protection systems;

10. *Reaffirms* that universal access to social protection plays a central role in reducing inequality, eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions and promoting opportunities for women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as in the elimination of violence, and reiterates that all women and girls have the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of themselves and their families, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and that motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance;

11. *Urges* States to scale up efforts to accelerate the transition of women from informal employment to formal employment, including access to decent work, improved wages, social protection and quality and affordable childcare;

12. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists with respect to many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to support the empowerment of all women and girls, in particular rural women, to address their own food and nutritional needs and those of their families, to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent work, and to guarantee their personal health, well-being and security, full access to land and natural resources and access to affordable, low-cost, long-term loans and to local, regional and global markets, taking into account that the prevalence of food insecurity puts the health and lives of women and children at risk;

13. *Recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women in agricultural development, 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, and in this regard stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that the critical role of women in food security and nutrition is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to food insecurity, malnutrition, excessive price volatility and food crises in developing countries;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to end hunger and famine and achieve food security as a matter of priority, and to end all forms of malnutrition, and in this regard reaffirms the inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security, reaffirms the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action,[551] and also reaffirms the commitment to devote resources to developing rural and coastal areas and sustainable agriculture and fisheries and supporting

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[547] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and E/2005/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[548] Ibid., *2010, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and E/2010/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[549] Ibid., *2015, Supplement No. 7* (E/2015/27), chap. I, sect. C.

[550] Ibid., *2020, Supplement No. 7* (E/2020/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[551] World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annexes I and II.

smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, herders and fishers in developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

15. *Stresses* the need to take action to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, including in the world of work, through the strengthening of institutional mechanisms and legal frameworks, given that violence and discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, against women and girls in private and public spaces both online and offline are a major impediment to the achievement of the empowerment of women and girls and their social and economic development that no country has managed to eliminate, and encourages the adoption of specific preventive measures to protect women and girls, youth and children from violence, abuse and neglect, sexual abuse, exploitation, harassment, trafficking in persons and harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, and calls for their full access to justice, effective legal remedies, and health-care and psychosocial services, including protection, rehabilitation and reintegration, taking into account the need to address negative social norms, structural barriers and gender stereotypes that affect women in the world of work and to develop measures to promote the re-entry of victims and survivors of violence into the labour market;

16. *Recognizes* that investment in health contributes to reducing inequality and increasing sustainable and inclusive economic growth and to social development, environmental protection, the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition and the realization of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health for women and girls;

17. *Also recognizes* that achieving the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, through, inter alia, equitable and universal access to affordable and quality health-care services and preventive health-care information, including in the area of sexual and reproductive health, is critical to women's economic advancement and empowerment, that a lack of economic empowerment and independence increases women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, including violence and the risk of contracting HIV and AIDS, and that the neglect of women's full enjoyment of human rights severely limits their opportunities in public and private life, including the opportunities for receiving an education and for achieving economic and political empowerment;

18. *Expresses deep concern* that, globally, women and girls are still the most affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, that they bear a disproportionate share of the caregiving burden and that they are more vulnerable to violence, stigmatization, discrimination, poverty and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of HIV/AIDS, notes that progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls has been unacceptably slow and that the ability of women and girls to protect themselves from HIV continues to be compromised by physiological factors, gender inequalities, including unequal power relations in society between women and men and boys and girls, and unequal legal, economic and social status, insufficient access to health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health, multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence in the public and private spheres, including trafficking in persons, sexual violence, exploitation and harmful practices, and calls upon Governments and the international community to urgently scale up responses towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment, care and support and to ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic by 2030;

19. *Also expresses deep concern* that the burden of non-communicable diseases continues to rise disproportionately in developing countries, and encourages Governments and all sectors of society to mainstream a gender perspective into the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, which is crucial to understanding and addressing the health risks and needs of women and men of all ages, giving particular attention to the impact of non-communicable diseases on women in all settings, based on data appropriately disaggregated by sex and age;

20. *Recognizes* the disproportionate impacts of neglected tropical diseases on women and girls, recalls States' commitment to end the epidemic of neglected tropical diseases as one of the targets of the 2030 Agenda, and emphasizes the need to strengthen efforts to address it, as part of universal health coverage;

21. *Expresses deep concern* that maternal health remains one area constrained by some of the largest health inequities in the world, and over the uneven progress in improving newborn, child and maternal health, in this context calls upon States to implement their commitments to prevent and reduce newborn, child and maternal mortality and morbidity, and in this regard takes note with appreciation of commitments in support of the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016–2030), as well as national, regional and international initiatives contributing to the reduction in the number of maternal deaths and deaths of the newborn and children under 5 years of age;

22. *Encourages* Governments, with the support of their development partners, to invest in appropriate infrastructure and other projects, including the provision of water and sanitation for all, to rural areas, coastal areas and urban slums, in order to increase health and well-being, relieve the workload of women and girls and release their time and energy for other productive activities, including entrepreneurship;

23. *Expresses deep concern* that the lack of adequate sanitation facilities and related challenges, such as water scarcity and unsafe water, disproportionately affect women and girls, including their labour force and school participation rates, with women walking long distances or waiting hours in queues to obtain water, which restricts their time for other activities, such as education and leisure, or for earning a livelihood, and increase their vulnerability to violence, and in this regard calls for the strengthening of efforts to achieve sanitation for all and to end open defecation, through efforts to ensure access to sanitation and hygiene facilities, including menstrual health and hygiene management;

24. *Urges* all Governments to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in the field of education, to promote and respect their right to education, ensure their safe and equal access to and encourage their participation in education, throughout their life cycle and at all levels, especially for those who have been left furthest behind, and address gender disparities, including by investing in public education systems and infrastructure, eliminating discriminatory laws and practices, providing universal access to inclusive, equitable and quality education, including free and compulsory primary and secondary education, promoting lifelong learning and training opportunities for all, eliminating female illiteracy and promoting financial and digital literacy, and to address negative social norms and gender stereotypes in education systems, including in curricula and teaching methodologies, that devalue women's and girls' education and prevent them from having access to, completing and continuing their education;

25. *Urges* Governments to ensure that women and girls have equal access to career development, training, scholarships and fellowships, adopting positive actions to build women's and girls' leadership skills and influence and supporting women and girls in diversifying their educational and occupational choices in emerging fields, such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics and information and communications technology, and acquiring digital skills, to strive to ensure the completion of early childhood, primary and secondary education and expand vocational and technical education for all women and girls, and acquire the knowledge and skills that can strengthen their resilience and adaptive capacities throughout their life cycle in order to attain high-quality jobs in the sustainable economy, especially in the digital era, and to foster, as appropriate, intercultural and multilingual education for all;

26. *Encourages* Governments to adopt and pursue national financial inclusion strategies and gender-responsive strategies to end the structural barriers to women's equal access to economic and financial resources and to expand peer learning, experience-sharing and capacity-building among countries and regions in this respect;

27. *Recognizes* the need to build dynamic, sustainable, innovative and people-centred economies, promoting youth employment, and women's economic empowerment in particular, and decent work for all, and to ensure that labour market regulations and social provisions create a level playing field for women, for example by enacting and enforcing minimum wage legislation and social protection systems and measures, eliminating discriminatory wage practices, achieving equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value, and promoting measures such as public works programmes, in order to enable women to cope with new and recurrent crises and long-term unemployment and provide for recruitment, retention and promotion policies targeting women;

28. *Reaffirms its commitment* to diversity in cities and human settlements, to strengthening social cohesion, intercultural dialogue and understanding, tolerance, mutual respect, gender equality, innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusion, identity and safety, and the dignity of all people, as well as to fostering liveability and a vibrant urban economy and to taking steps to ensure that local institutions promote pluralism and peaceful coexistence within increasingly heterogeneous and multicultural societies;

29. *Recognizes* that unremunerated work, including unpaid care and domestic work, plays an essential role in improving well-being in the household and in the functioning of the economy as a whole, and urges Member States to promote shared responsibility within the household and to adopt and implement legislation and policies, as appropriate, that are designed to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities and that recognize, value, assess, reduce and redistribute women's disproportionate share of unpaid and domestic work and the work burden of women engaged in unpaid work, including domestic and care work, including through sustained investments in the care economy, increased flexibility in working arrangements, such as part-time work, and the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers, to provide support through the development of infrastructure and technology and the provision of public services, including accessible, affordable and quality social services, childcare

and care facilities for children and other dependants, and to ensure that both women and men have access to inclusive, gender-responsive social protection systems and maternity or paternity, parental and other forms of leave and allowances and are not discriminated against when availing themselves of such benefits;

30. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers to, as well as eliminate stereotypical attitudes towards, gender equality at work and implement labour market policies to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, to implement measures to achieve equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value as well as to encourage women's full participation in the formal economy, in particular in economic decision-making and resource allocation, and to take measures to increase women's access to productive resources and assets, including digital technology, land, property and financial services, including microfinance, as appropriate;

31. *Encourages* the United Nations system and donor countries to support States in increasing their investments in gender-responsive policies and programmes, such as providing financial services and products to women's groups, including women's enterprise funds, in order to promote entrepreneurship, full employment and decent work for women, and in delivering social protection and social services;

32. *Urges* Governments to develop, adequately resource and implement active labour market policies to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including the full participation of women and men in rural, coastal and urban areas, as well as policies that encourage the full and equal participation of women and men, including persons with disabilities, in the formal labour market, to enact or strengthen and enforce laws and regulatory frameworks that ensure equality and prohibit discrimination against women, in particular in the world of work, including their participation in and access to labour markets, inter alia, laws and frameworks that prohibit discrimination based on pregnancy, motherhood, marital status or age, as well as other multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, to take appropriate measures to ensure that women, throughout the life cycle, have equal opportunities for decent work in the public and private sectors, while recognizing that temporary special measures aimed at accelerating de facto equality between men and women should not be considered discrimination, to address the root causes of gender inequality, gender stereotypes and unequal power relations between men and women and to provide, as appropriate, effective means of redress and access to justice in cases of non-compliance and accountability for violations and abuses of human rights;

33. *Urges* the United Nations system and other international organizations, upon the request of Member States, to support and promote innovative programme responses to ensure women's access to decent work, to recognize, reduce and redistribute the unequal burden of unpaid care and domestic work, to promote gender-responsive social protection initiatives and measures for women and girls and to support and encourage the scaling-up of existing good practice programmes and initiatives, including to assess and address the impact of information and communications technology, digitalization and digital markets on the labour market;

34. *Reaffirms* the commitment to women's equal rights and opportunities in political and economic decision-making and resource allocation, to the removal of all barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, and to the resolve to undertake legislative and administrative reforms to give women equal rights with men to economic resources, including access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technology, encourages the private sector to contribute to advancing gender equality by striving to ensure women's full and productive employment and decent work, equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value and equal opportunities, as well as protecting them against discrimination, sexual harassment and abuse in the workplace, including by supporting the women's empowerment principles established by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the United Nations Global Compact, and encourages increased investment in female-owned companies or businesses;

35. *Encourages* Member States to pursue, by effective means, policies of preventing and eliminating sexual harassment in the workplace, including in digital contexts, with an emphasis on effective legal, preventive and protective measures, including raising awareness regarding the rights of women who are victims of sexual harassment in the workplace or those who are at risk of sexual harassment;

36. *Urges* Governments to take measures to facilitate women's access to land and property rights by providing training designed to make the judicial, legislative and administrative system gender-responsive, to provide legal aid

for women seeking to claim their rights, to support the efforts of women's groups and networks and to carry out awareness campaigns in order to draw attention to the need for women's equal rights to land and property;

37. *Stresses* the importance of mobilizing and allocating resources to develop and implement policies and programmes, to support women's entrepreneurship and to support opportunities for new women entrepreneurs, which will lead to business expansion for existing women-owned microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business, administration and information and communications technologies, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, especially by financial institutions;

38. *Encourages* the international community, including Governments, and all relevant stakeholders, including the entities of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, other intergovernmental bodies, regional and national development banks, domestic financial institutions, credit unions, multi-stakeholder partnerships and relevant non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, to further develop financial literacy and financial education programmes for women and girls that include an emphasis on the impact of finance on sustainable development, as appropriate, in order to ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to access financial services and financial products, in particular women farmers and those working in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

39. *Encourages* all Governments to work towards full and equal access to formal financial services, financial resources and financial products for all women, to adopt or review their financial inclusion strategies, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, and to consider including financial inclusion as a policy objective in financial regulation, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, encourages commercial banking systems to serve all, including those who currently face barriers to accessing financial services and information, and to support microfinance institutions, development banks, agricultural banks, mobile network operators, agent networks, cooperatives, postal banks and savings banks, as appropriate, also encourages the use of innovative tools, including mobile banking, payment platforms and digitalized payments, and the expansion of peer learning and experience-sharing among countries, regions and regional organizations, commits itself to strengthening capacity development for developing countries, including through the United Nations development system, and encourages mutual cooperation and collaboration between financial inclusion initiatives;

40. *Urges* Governments and all relevant stakeholders to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to all types of financial services and products, including bank loans, bank accounts, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, regardless of their economic and social status, to support women's access to legal assistance and to encourage entities in the financial sector to mainstream gender perspectives in their policies and programmes, recognizes the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, notes in this regard the importance of sound national financial systems, encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions, and urges Governments to ensure that microfinance programmes focus on the development of savings products that are safe, convenient and accessible to women and that support women's efforts to retain control over their savings;

41. *Recognizes* that women and girls account for almost half of all international migrants at the global level and the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls by, inter alia, incorporating a gender perspective into policies and strengthening national laws, institutions and programmes to prevent and combat gender-based violence, trafficking in persons and discrimination against women and girls, providing gender-responsive programmes and instruments that enhance the financial inclusion of migrants and their families in order to end structural barriers to women's equal access to economic resources, and calls upon Governments to strengthen efforts to protect the rights of, and ensure decent work conditions for, domestic workers, including migrant women and girls, in relation to, inter alia, working hours, working conditions and wages, and to promote access to health-care services and other social and economic benefits;

42. *Also recognizes* that the positive contributions of migrant women and girls, in particular women migrant workers, have the potential to foster inclusive growth and sustainable development in countries of origin, transit and destination, further underlines the value and dignity of migrant women's labour in all sectors, including the labour of domestic and care workers, and concerned that many migrant women, particularly those who are engaged in informal employment, are especially vulnerable to abuse and exploitation;

43. *Further recognizes* the special needs of all women and girls living in areas affected by complex humanitarian emergencies and humanitarian crises, and that the forced displacement of people threatens to reverse much of the development progress made in recent decades and has particular negative impacts on women and girls that need to be comprehensively assessed and addressed;

44. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations system to ensure systematic attention to, recognition of and support for the crucial role of women at all levels and at all stages in the prevention and resolution of conflict, in mediation and peacebuilding efforts and in the rebuilding of post-conflict societies, inter alia, by promoting women's capacity, leadership, full, equal and meaningful participation and engagement in political and economic decision-making and by preventing, combating and eliminating sexual and gender-based violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations, and, in this regard, to promote and facilitate an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes;

45. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to ensure equal access to full and productive employment and decent work on an equal basis and that labour markets and work environments are open, inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities, and to take positive measures to increase the employment of women with disabilities and to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including recruitment, retention and promotion, and the provision of safe, secure and healthy working conditions, in consultation with relevant national mechanisms and organizations of persons with disabilities, as noted in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[552] including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development and vocational and entrepreneurial training, in order to enable women with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence and reach their full potential, and notes the need to strengthen efforts aimed at addressing the rights and needs of women and children with disabilities;

46. *Urges* States to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources to ensure the full and equal participation of women in all levels of decision-making on environmental issues, stresses the need to address the challenges for women and girls posed by climate change, and emphasizes the importance of gender mainstreaming in developing and implementing disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery strategies, taking into account the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[553]

47. *Stresses* the importance of improving and systematizing the collection, analysis and dissemination of high-quality, accessible, timely and reliable data, disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, and of developing gender-sensitive indicators that are specific and relevant with respect to supporting policymaking and national systems for monitoring and reporting on progress and impact, and in this regard encourages developed countries and relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems;

48. *Encourages* Governments, in cooperation with the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations, upon the request of Governments, to collect, analyse and disseminate high quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by sex, age and disability and statistics and to assess the impact of associated policy measures on women's:

(a) Employment, entrepreneurship and access to decent work and social protection;

(b) Unpaid care and domestic work through regular time-use surveys and the establishment of satellite accounts to assess the contribution of such work to national income;

(c) Informal employment, including agricultural work, disaggregated by sex, income, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location;

49. *Urges* all Member States to undertake a gender analysis of national labour laws and standards and to establish gender-sensitive policies and guidelines for employment practices, including for transnational corporations,

[552] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[553] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

with particular attention to export-processing zones, building, in this regard, on multilateral instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[554] and conventions of the International Labour Organization;

50. *Urges* Member States to fully integrate gender equality strategies into national sustainable development frameworks so as to promote accelerated action and greater policy coherence, recognizing that achieving gender equality will require both targeted gender-responsive action and the systemic mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all policies and programmes;

51. *Encourages* States to allocate adequate financial and human resources to national women's machineries, as well as to, and within, line ministries, establishing and/or strengthening dedicated units for gender equality and the empowerment of women, providing capacity development for technical staff and developing tools and guidelines, and calls upon the United Nations system, particularly UN-Women and United Nations country teams, to support national efforts in this regard;

52. *Encourages* Member States to continue to increase, as appropriate, the participation of civil society, including women's and youth organizations, in government decision-making processes in national policy areas, including sustainable development;

53. *Encourages* States, the United Nations system and donor countries to strengthen and implement gender-responsive planning and budgeting processes and to develop and strengthen methodologies and tools for this purpose, as well as for the monitoring and evaluation of investments for gender equality results, as appropriate, and encourages donors to mainstream a gender perspective into their practices, including joint coordination and accountability mechanisms;

54. *Stresses* that there is a need for all donors to maintain and deliver on their existing respective bilateral and multilateral official development assistance commitments and targets and that the full implementation of those commitments will substantially boost resources available to push forward the international development agenda, and urges countries to track and report resource allocations for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

55. *Urges* the donor community, Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders to strengthen the focus and impact of development assistance targeting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through gender mainstreaming and the funding of targeted activities and enhanced dialogue between donors and partners, and also to strengthen the mechanisms needed to measure effectively the resources allocated to incorporating gender perspectives in all areas of development assistance;

56. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the organizations of the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders to assist and support the efforts of developing countries in integrating a gender perspective into all aspects of policymaking, including through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

57. *Encourages* the international community, in particular the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the financial resources necessary to assist Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets, particularly for women and girls, and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, at which the outcome document entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" was adopted, and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

58. *Urges* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to accelerate their efforts and to provide adequate resources to increase the voice and full, equal and

[554] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

effective participation of women in all decision-making bodies at the highest levels of government and in the governance structures of international organizations, including by eliminating gender stereotyping in appointments and promotions, to build women's capacity as agents of change and to empower them to participate actively and effectively in the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national sustainable development, poverty eradication and environmental policies, strategies and programmes;

59. *Urges* multilateral donors and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas;

60. *Recognizes* the ongoing intergovernmental efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women, and urges the United Nations system to continue efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments to all categories of staff, including the Professional and higher categories, within the United Nations system at the Headquarters, regional and country levels, bearing in mind the principle of equitable geographical representation and in line with Article 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, with due regard to the representation of women from developing countries, convinced of the need to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men in gaining access to senior decision-making positions, including to the post of Secretary-General, and in this regard notes the Secretary-General's system-wide strategy on gender parity;

61. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments, investment frameworks and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this domain in accordance with national development strategies, welcomes the work of UN-Women with United Nations country teams in assisting programme countries, at their request, in the integration of a gender perspective into national development policies and strategies, including sustainable development policies and strategies, in accordance with their national priorities, and stresses its important role in leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the United Nations system so as to ensure that the commitment to gender equality and gender mainstreaming translates into effective action throughout the world;

62. *Calls upon* all entities of the United Nations development system to continue to promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by enhancing and accelerating gender mainstreaming through the full implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, in accordance with resolution 75/233;

63. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commits to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

64. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

RESOLUTION 77/182

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/447/Add.4, para. 8)[555]

77/182. Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003, 60/211 of 22 December 2005, 62/207 of 19 December 2007, 64/218 of

[555] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

21 December 2009, 66/217 of 22 December 2011, 68/228 of 20 December 2013, 70/220 of 22 December 2015, 72/235 of 20 December 2017 and 74/236 of 19 December 2019,

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further its resolution 73/342 of 16 September 2019, in which it welcomed the adoption by the International Labour Conference, at its 108th session, of the International Labour Organization Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work,[556] and encouraged its implementation,

Taking note of the World Health Organization action plan, entitled "Working for Health Action Plan 2022–2030", which focuses on three key and cross-cutting priority areas, namely, planning and financing, education and employment and protection and performance,

Stressing that human resources development lies at the heart of sustainable development in its three dimensions and that health and education are at the core of human resources development,

Stressing also that human resources development is vital to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed sustainable development goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular, for people in vulnerable situations,

Welcoming the considerable efforts made over the years, yet recognizing that many countries continue to face significant challenges in developing a sufficient pool of human resources capable of meeting national economic and social needs and that the formulation and implementation of effective human resources strategies often require resources and capacities not always available in developing countries, and recognizing also the need for new ways to address human resources development,

Stressing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, conflicts and the effects of climate change have resulted in increased challenges on the eradication of poverty, decent work for all, universal health coverage, access to inclusive and equitable quality education, food security and nutrition, energy access and cost of living, which have had deep impacts on people's well-being, their ambitions and their aspirations, that a renewed and concerted effort to reinvest in and rebuild human capacities will be essential in order to recuperate the ground lost in human development and that developing countries are disproportionately affected by these challenges,

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,

[556] A/73/918, annex.

Noting with concern the changes caused by the COVID-19 pandemic on the world of work, which varied greatly across geography and economic sectors, causing damaging effects on working time and income worldwide, and spillover effects that have worsened conditions of workers, including major supply chain disruptions, policy and economic uncertainties, rising inflation and unsustainable debt, and led to high unemployment and job informality, in particular among young people, women, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and people in vulnerable situations, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances,

Noting the crucial contribution and the use of information and communications technologies, which have enabled continuity in commerce and employment through the pandemic and have also served to demonstrate the relationships between digital, social and economic inclusion and exclusion, and in this regard noting also the importance of digital literacy skills and the role of reliable access to digital connectivity in boosting employability, enabling individuals to lift themselves out of poverty and away from disadvantages,

Stressing that technological changes and breakthroughs are expanding at a rapid pace and having an impact on the world of work and that, in this regard, the development of human resources needs to keep pace and be supported by proactive strategies, investments and normative frameworks to address emerging issues relating to the future of work, education and training,

Recognizing that rapid innovations in digital technologies are increasingly affecting all spheres of human life and resources, including and beyond education, work and health, and that, if managed wisely, those developments can be an important instrument in achieving progress on the 2030 Agenda and generating better livelihoods for all,

Noting that rapid technological change can lead to both highly skilled employment opportunities as well as disruptions in labour markets, which can have adverse distributional effects, including rising inequality among and within countries,

Noting also that technological advancements should be harnessed to improve conditions for human capital in support of the overarching goal of leaving no one behind, and that appropriate measures should be taken in this regard,

Recognizing the uneven status of access to and development of digital infrastructure within and among countries and the barriers faced by developing countries, such as the lack of electricity, broadband Internet connection, availability, affordability and use of information and communications technologies, to bridging the digital divide and leapfrogging to frontier technologies,

Recognizing also that the benefits of human resources development are best realized in national and international environments that support full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including young people, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons, and those in vulnerable situations, equal pay for equal work or work of equal value and equality of opportunity and treatment, access to inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities and non-discrimination, and that maintain an enabling environment for job creation,

Recognizing further the evidence of an uneven recovery and the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis that continue to diminish the ability of many countries, especially developing countries, to cope with and address human resources development challenges and to formulate and implement effective strategies for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Acknowledging the important synergies between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community, recognizing also the role that migrants returning to their country of origin can play through the utilization of their skills, and stressing that the brain drain continues to be a severe problem in many developing and transitioning countries, undermining efforts in the area of human resources development,

Recognizing the emergence of new types of employment based on sharing-economy models, and the need to extend social protection rights and benefits that are accessible and portable to workers whose conditions of employment are non-standard, as appropriate and in accordance with national circumstances,

Recognizing also the need to align science, technological knowledge and innovation systems with national development objectives, fully integrated with national human resources development, labour needs and poverty

eradication strategies and supported by appropriate institutional and policy frameworks, which can lead to positive transformations in people's lives,

Noting that science, technological knowledge and innovation policies should take into account the specific features of the economy in developing countries, including the size of the traditional sector, Indigenous knowledge, the limited access to skilled labour and capital, weak infrastructure and inadequate institutional frameworks, in order to generate solutions that address the specific challenges of those countries and to foster synergies between modern science and technology, and Indigenous and local knowledge,

Reaffirming that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls are of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services, including health,

Recognizing that inclusive and equitable quality education is the key to promoting the development of human potential, equality and understanding among peoples, as well as to sustaining economic growth and eradicating poverty, and recognizing also that, to achieve those ends, it is essential that quality education be available to all, including Indigenous Peoples, young people, women and girls, rural inhabitants and persons with disabilities, and those in vulnerable situations,

Stressing that climate change is a significant development challenge and that improving educational and institutional capacities to tackle climate change is linked to human resources development efforts to ensure that populations can lead healthy and prosperous lives, including investing in teacher training and ensuring that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development,

Stressing also that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development, and the need for continued support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[557]

2. *Calls upon* the international community to place human resources development at the core of economic and social development and to develop short-, medium- and long-term strategies to effectively enhance human resources capacities, as educated, skilled, healthy, capable, productive and adaptable workforces are the foundation for achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development;

3. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to human resources development strategies in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[558]

4. *Stresses* the need for Member States to emphasize and integrate human resources development into national development strategies, including national development policies and strategies to eradicate poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in order to address structural and multidimensional challenges to enhancing national productive capacities and to ensure that human resources development implications are taken into account by all national development stakeholders;

5. *Emphasizes* that the pandemic presented new challenges for global health systems, and that deep and persisting disparities became visible during the pandemic, especially those in vulnerable situations who have faced obstacles in obtaining access to health-care services;

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[557] A/77/234.

[558] Resolution 70/1.

6. *Stresses* that long-term resilience for human resources development requires the anchoring of efforts in all parts of societies and that policies must be expanded to include holistic and inclusive efforts in decision-making and implementation and in enabling agency to efficiently address unexpected challenges;

7. *Also stresses* that cross-border challenges to address human resources development require cross-border solutions and that human resources development is a question of global solidarity and global well-being, in which effective global cooperation depends on shared responsibility to act upon common challenges and adapt societies accordingly;

8. *Recognizes* that comprehensive approaches to human resources development that address poverty eradication and the creation of a skilled workforce are also critical in reducing unemployment and brain drain and in promoting greater social inclusion;

9. *Also recognizes* that the future of work, affected by progress in science and technology, requires adaptability and faster learning and relearning of new skills, which, in turn, require a shift towards early childhood education, work-based learning, lifelong learning and a comprehensive life-cycle approach to education and training, enabled, inter alia, through enhanced investment in teacher training and professional development and improved access to digital learning resources, especially in developing countries;

10. *Encourages* States, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to take appropriate steps, in accordance with their plans and policies, to help individuals to make well-informed choices in education, training and careers, develop an integrated system of quality education and training that responds to constantly evolving needs, promote employer recognition and career development based on skills and foster a culture that supports and celebrates lifelong learning, in order to provide opportunities for all to develop their fullest potential throughout life, regardless of their starting points, thereby improving their chances of staying gainfully employed, and calls for more effective support for developing countries in this regard, including from the United Nations system;

11. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement comprehensive human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between quality education, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy;

12. *Stresses* that human resources development policies should focus on supporting the emergence of a sufficiently wide and flexible pool of skilled human resources, especially among women and youth, to support all sectors of the economy and be matched with present and future workforce needs, which requires well-sequenced investments in basic education, vocational training, on-the-job training and more advanced managerial, engineering and scientific education to increase the supply of technological knowledge that can be absorbed by national innovation systems;

13. *Emphasizes* the need to adopt cross-sectoral approaches and mechanisms to identify human resources development needs in the medium and long term for all sectors of the economy, to formulate and implement policies and programmes to address those needs and to acknowledge the role of the private sector in training, education and employment;

14. *Recognizes* that comprehensive and flexible science, technological knowledge and innovation strategies that encompass all sectors of the economy are critical to ensuring that skills are matched with labour market demand and are ready to adapt to and benefit from a constantly evolving technology landscape;

15. *Acknowledges* the need to promote and support inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning to ensure that all children, youth and adults are empowered with the relevant knowledge and skills to shape more resilient, inclusive and sustainable societies that are able to adapt to rapid technological change, and stresses the need to foster international cooperation to support developing countries in addressing their constraints in access to technologies and education;

16. *Emphasizes* that, when science, technological knowledge and innovation and human resources development approaches are mutually reinforcing, they can help to implement sustainable development in its three dimensions;

17. *Recognizes* the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies as critical enablers of sustainable development and to overcome digital divides, and stresses that capacity-building for the

productive use of such technologies should be given due consideration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[559]

18. *Encourages* the international community to bridge the digital divide, within and among countries, to promote inclusive and sustainable development, which is an important precondition for closing the economic divide within and among countries, including through appropriate ecosystems for innovation and targeted support for enabling access for all to appropriate digital infrastructure;

19. *Calls for* proactively responding to the opportunities offered by and the adverse impacts of technological changes on the labour market, as appropriate and in accordance with national circumstances, by adopting effective social protection systems, the recognition and credentialling of non-formal and informal learning, targeted support for disadvantaged groups and support for adaptation during transition periods;

20. *Stresses* that investment in human resources development should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies, and in this regard calls for the adoption of policies to facilitate investment focused on physical and social infrastructure, including education, in particular skills upgrading and vocational training in areas such as science and technology, including information and communications technology, as well as in capacity development, health and sustainable development;

21. *Encourages* Member States, as appropriate, to continue to implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, to adopt policies that strengthen existing safety nets and protect people in vulnerable situations and to take other appropriate actions, including boosting national economic performance, recognizes that social protection floors, defined according to national priorities and the individual circumstances of States, can provide systemic approaches to addressing poverty and vulnerability and can contribute significantly to successful human resources development strategies, acknowledges in this regard that many developing countries lack the necessary financial resources and capacity to implement such countercyclical measures, and in this regard recognizes the need for continued mobilization of additional domestic and international resources, as appropriate;

22. *Encourages* States to consider policies consistent with the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and their obligations under all relevant ratified conventions of the International Labour Organization, and recalls the importance of promoting decent work for all and of increasing quality jobs and through working relationships based on effective social dialogue;

23. *Stresses* that human resources development strategies should include measures aimed at reducing unemployment and underemployment among young people and the long-term unemployed, who have been disproportionately affected by slow growth in jobs recovery and by labour-displacing technological changes, and to integrate underutilized human resources into the labour market through policies that promote skills development and productivity, facilitate adaptation during transition periods and reduce barriers to employment, including gender barriers, including by providing incentives, as appropriate, for recruiting, retaining and retooling, assistance in job-finding, job-matching and vocational and on-the-job training, and by promoting, inter alia, youth entrepreneurship;

24. *Recognizes* that an ageing workforce can have positive and negative implications for labour markets, and stresses the importance of lifelong learning to ensure the inclusion of older workers in the future of work;

25. *Emphasizes* the need for development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourages the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services;

26. *Stresses* the need for Member States to retain and further enhance national human resources by boosting job-rich recovery and promoting decent work, including by adopting policies and incentives that enhance labour productivity and stimulate private investment and entrepreneurship and strengthen the role of labour administration and institutions in order to foster job creation, address the gender wage gap, reduce occupational segregation and increase the participation of people in vulnerable situations, including workers in the informal economy;

[559] Resolution 69/313, annex.

27. *Emphasizes* the need to address the interlinkages among human resources development, poverty eradication, energy and food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development, and encourages countries to strengthen capacity in agriculture and rural development;

28. *Encourages* Member States to facilitate access to and apply environmentally sound technologies, and notes with appreciation the launch of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism established in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[560] based on a multi-stakeholder collaboration among States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations entities and other stakeholders, in order to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

29. *Stresses* that sustainable development is dependent, inter alia, on healthy people, calls upon Governments to continue their efforts to strengthen national health systems, urges the further strengthening of international cooperation in the area of health, including mental health, inter alia, by considering the promotion of universal health coverage and through the exchange of best practices in the areas of strengthening health systems, access to medicines, expanding and transforming the health workforce, recruitment, training and development of health personnel, transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and production of affordable, safe, effective and good-quality medicine, and in this regard also stresses that international cooperation and assistance, including funding, need to become more predictable and to be better aligned with national priorities and channelled to recipient countries in ways that strengthen national health systems;

30. *Calls upon* the international community, including the relevant entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, HIV and AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases and to halt the spread of epidemic diseases, as well as the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in all regions of the world, and their effects on human resources;

31. *Recognizes* the important role of information and communications technologies for attaining the Sustainable Development Goals and for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and calls upon all stakeholders in the information and communications technologies sector, including Governments and the United Nations system, to fully consider the health and socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as they strengthen their efforts to bridge the digital divides within and between developed and developing countries, with particular attention to the poorest and most vulnerable, as well as women and girls, and to ensuring affordable and reliable connectivity, the promotion of digital access and digital inclusion, and the expansion of accessible and inclusive distance-learning solutions and digital health services;

32. *Stresses* the consequences of the pandemic on job security across different sectors with impacts especially high for workers in informal employment, concentrated in low- and middle-income countries, and that the global proportion of young people who are not in education, employment or training within these countries is at its highest level since 2005, having increased to almost 20 million young people in 2020;

33. *Encourages* Governments to facilitate investments in education, skills and decent job creation in the health and social sectors by building the human capital required to accelerate universal health coverage and global health security, recognizes that these actions are not only essential to the achievement of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals but will also generate benefits across the Goals, including the creation of decent jobs, the reduction of youth unemployment, the enhancement of women's economic empowerment and participation and inclusive growth;

34. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations entities to support national efforts to build institutional capacities to address long-term national human resources development needs in addition to providing training to individuals;

35. *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;

36. *Calls for* steps to integrate a gender perspective into human resources development, including through policies, strategies and targeted actions aimed at promoting women's capacities and access to productive activities, and in this regard emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of such policies, strategies and actions;

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[560] Ibid., para. 123.

37. *Stresses* the important contributions of the public and private sectors, respectively, in meeting national training and education needs to support the efficient functioning of enterprises and matching the needs of a rapidly changing economy, and encourages the integration of those contributions, including through the greater use of public-private partnerships and incentives;

38. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels that will give high priority to improving and expanding literacy, as well as science proficiency, including by providing affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university, and stresses the need to ensure that, by 2030, children everywhere, girls and boys alike, will be able to complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education, leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes;

39. *Encourages* Governments to consider appropriate measures at the national level, such as upgrading human skills, better aligning educational and training systems to labour market needs and strengthening labour institutions and regulations to respond to economic fluctuations;

40. *Encourages* countries to maintain or consider enhancing measures to boost job-rich recovery, such as policies and incentives to enhance labour productivity and stimulate private investment;

41. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration, and in this regard reiterates the need to consider innovative measures to maximize the benefits of migration while minimizing the negative effects on origin, transit and destination countries of the migration of both highly skilled and low-skilled workers from developing countries, taking into account the principle of national sovereignty;

42. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind, and commits to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-ninth session, an action-oriented report on the implementation of the present resolution in line with the 2030 Agenda, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

RESOLUTION 77/183

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 123 to 51, with no abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/447/Add.5, para. 8)[561]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: None

[561] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

77/183. Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 73/244 of 20 December 2018, 74/237 of 19 December 2019, 75/232 of 21 December 2020 and 76/219 of 17 December 2021, entitled "Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further the Paris Agreement[562] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[563] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 to 20 October 2016,[564]

Bearing in mind that the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations in 2020 and the fifth anniversary of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda presented an opportunity to reaffirm collective commitment to multilateralism and to the United Nations, and reaffirming the urgent need to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

Recalling its declaration, in its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, of 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty,

Recalling also its resolution 72/233 of 20 December 2017, in which it considered that the theme of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) should be "Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty", and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, which is disproportionately high in rural areas, 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, noting with concern that as of 2019 approximately 648 million people still lived in extreme poverty and that the latest projections suggest that up to 89 million additional people are living in extreme poverty in 2022 because of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the precarious recovery, compounded by the recent global crisis of food, finance and challenge of energy access, 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,

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

[563] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[564] Resolution 71/256, annex.

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,

Noting that the share of the rural poor in the total population of those living in poverty rose by more than 2 percentage points between 2015 and 2018, which highlights the setbacks and challenges in fighting rural poverty even before the pandemic and the need for accelerated action towards the eradication of poverty, and recognizing that addressing rural poverty is fundamental for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 1 of the 2030 Agenda, as well as most of the other Goals, with 70 per cent of the targets requiring action in rural areas,

Emphasizing that the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on sustainable development have increased the number of people living in poverty around the world and disrupted, inter alia, the normal functioning of open markets, global supply chain connectivity and the flow of essential goods, hindering the fight against poverty and adding urgency to the call to galvanize action and delivery for the eradication of poverty, in all its forms and dimensions, particularly in rural areas, where most of the extreme poor live, stressing that global inequities in access to COVID-19 vaccines, with the bulk of vaccines disproportionately available in high-income countries, in contrast with the low availability of COVID-19 vaccines in low-income countries, further put at risk the health of the rural poor, in this regard welcoming the 2020 Sustainable Development Goals Moment, placing an emphasis on poverty and inequality, on climate change and a healthy planet and on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, taking note of the efforts of the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session to launch the Alliance for Poverty Eradication, which is timely and meaningful and continues to serve as a platform for the exchange of ideas, policies and best practices on poverty eradication, and stressing the importance of addressing poverty, including rural poverty issues, in these forums, as the rural poor might be less prepared to deal with the effects of and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and multiple crises and could have less access to adequate sanitation, food and nutrition, water, health-care services, education, the Internet, information and communications technology, social protection, financial services and public infrastructure,

Commending the efforts and remarkable progress achieved by developing countries in eradicating rural poverty, while noting with concern that key gaps still remain, such as: a lack of adequate data; inadequate investment in agricultural and rural development; lower and inadequate human capital formation relevant for rural livelihoods; inadequate income sources, including scarce non-farm income-generating opportunities; a lack of productive capacity and agricultural transformation; persistent gender inequality; a lack of social protection; insufficient basic infrastructure and services; a lack of or poor adaptive capacity and resilience to cope with the adverse effects of climate change and disasters; and a lack of effective rural institutions and of sufficient resources,

Recognizing the leading role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, together with other United Nations entities, including the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, in the global efforts to reduce poverty, including rural poverty, while addressing other interlinked challenges such as eliminating hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition, and increasing the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises,

Noting with appreciation the aspirations, embedded in Agenda 2063 of the African Union, to lift huge sections of the population out of poverty, improve incomes and catalyse economic and social transformation, and recognizing the importance of the international community's helping African countries to achieve such goals, especially in the rural areas of the African continent,

Noting that, while considerable progress has been made over the past decade across all areas of development, the pace of progress observed in recent years is insufficient and uneven to fully meet the Sustainable Development Goals and targets by 2030, especially in the area of rural poverty eradication,

Recognizing that poverty is a serious impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including those living in rural areas, and that the feminization of poverty persists, emphasizing

that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty, and stressing the importance of support for countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions,

Emphasizing that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda depends crucially on the transformation of rural areas, where most of the poor and hungry live, and that, in order to eradicate rural poverty, investment should be encouraged in those sectors that have a bigger impact, such as education and health, social protection, agriculture and infrastructure, while noting the financing gap between resources dedicated to the education sector and the amount necessary to reach Sustainable Development Goal 4, while the COVID-19 pandemic has provoked an unprecedented learning crisis, and that at least 80 billion dollars in annual investment will be needed to meet the demand for food that is projected to increase by 70 per cent by 2050, and that the investments that are needed for climate change mitigation and adaptation also remain underfunded,

Recalling the proclamation of 2019–2028 as the United Nations Decade of Family Farming, to raise the profile of the role of family farming[565] in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and reaffirming the importance of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025) in the promotion of activities towards the eradication of rural poverty,

Recognizing the interlinkages and integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, and reiterating that the eradication of rural poverty and hunger is crucial for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda, and that rural development should be pursued through an integrated approach which encompasses economic, social and environmental dimensions, takes into account a gender perspective and consists of mutually reinforcing policies and programmes, and which should be balanced, targeted, situation-specific and locally owned, include local synergies and initiatives and be responsive to the needs of rural populations,

Recalling that more than 80 per cent of the extreme poor live in rural areas and work in agriculture and that the extreme poverty rate in rural areas is three times higher than in urban areas, and recognizing that devoting resources to the development of rural areas and sustainable agriculture and supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, is key to ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by, inter alia, improving the welfare of farmers,

Taking into consideration the increasing number of young people who decide to leave rural areas for more urbanized ones and the challenges that this trend poses to the livelihood of rural families,

Expressing its concern that the extreme poor have limited access to productive resources, basic health, Internet and digital technologies, education and social protection services, basic infrastructure such as roads, water and electricity, and off-farm employment opportunities, and are susceptible to the impacts of natural hazards, especially weather-related hazards, including the El Niño phenomenon, and the adverse effects of climate change, and that rural women and girls fare far worse on most development indicators,

Emphasizing the importance of enhancing global support for national work on rural development policies and strategies, including on commodity production as well as increased public and private investments to upgrade productive capacity, and that tackling rural poverty requires integrated, cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder and context-specific interventions, with a strong emphasis on sustainable food and agricultural systems for food security, and nutrition, economic growth, revitalization and development in rural areas,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[566] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *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 for Sustainable Development,[567] of which the Addis Ababa

[565] Resolution 72/239.

[566] A/77/209.

[567] Resolution 70/1.

Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[568] is an integral part, supporting and complementing it;

3. *Expresses its deep concern* that the progress in reducing poverty remains uneven, with 1.3 billion people still living in multidimensional poverty, 84 per cent of whom live in rural areas, and that this number continues 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 inclusive and equitable quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns, and stresses the importance of national and global efforts to create the conditions for achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, economic, social and environmental, sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, shared prosperity and decent work for all in society, taking into account different levels of national development capacities;

4. *Recognizes* the importance of promoting socioeconomic development in rural areas as an effective strategy and important means at the global level for the eradication of poverty, including extreme poverty, and therefore underlines the importance of shaping a rural poverty eradication pattern with the concerted efforts of the whole of society to promote socioeconomic development in rural areas and create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication action;

5. *Emphasizes* that economic growth continues to leave rural dwellers behind, that, circa 2018, 80 per cent of the people living in extreme poverty lived in rural areas and 35 per cent of the population in sub-Saharan Africa lived on less than 2.15 dollars per day in 2019, and recommends that countries promote dedicated and coordinated social, economic, agricultural and rural development in their national policies, including by adopting rural-focused poverty eradication strategies in alignment with the 2030 Agenda, social policies aimed at improving human capital in rural areas and ensuring access to adequate social protection coverage, agricultural policies aimed at boosting agricultural productivity, and rural development policies aimed at improving access to rural infrastructure and basic services of high quality and at boosting non-farm employment opportunities;

6. *Recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, Indigenous women and their traditional knowledge and women in local communities, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and nutrition and eradicating rural poverty, and therefore highlights the importance of promoting their economic empowerment, their full access to land ownership and their participation in decision-making;

7. *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 rural development strategies with clear poverty eradication goals, strengthening national statistical capacity and monitoring systems and implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, 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;

8. *Encourages* all countries and other relevant stakeholders to promote inclusive economic transformation in rural areas that increases productivity while ensuring productive employment and decent work, access to reliable and appropriate social protection systems, inclusive and equitable quality education, health-care services, quality, resilient and sustainable infrastructure, roads and telecommunications, as well as preparedness planning for crises and early warning, reiterates that the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the important role of digital connectivity and access and the potential of e-commerce and e-learning solutions for poverty eradication, and thus calls upon all stakeholders to strengthen digital, information and communications technology, science, technology and innovation cooperation on mutually agreed terms, especially in the area of e-commerce, financial technology (fintech), affordable and reliable Internet connectivity and digital infrastructure investment and construction to keep food and agriculture supply chains functioning and achieve momentum under the 2030 Agenda for an inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery for global development, putting people at the centre of the response, protecting our planet and achieving prosperity, with no one left behind, in line with the 2030 Agenda;

[568] Resolution 69/313, annex.

9. *Recognizes* that eradicating poverty in rural areas cannot be separated from the sustainable transformation and strengthening of food systems and that ensuring fair markets that enable the participation of smallholder and family farmers in food systems, particularly in value chains where small-scale producers have a comparative advantage, will continue to be important, in this regard takes note with appreciation of the United Nations Food Systems Summit, held in 2021, which recognized the transformative effects of sustainable food systems as a driver for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, underscores that promoting a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization is essential for building sustainable, inclusive and resilient food systems, and thus stresses the importance of keeping trade channels and markets open, equitable, transparent, non-discriminatory and predictable for the movement of food, fertilizer and other agricultural inputs and outputs and access to energy, and emphasizes the urgent need to combat protectionism in all its forms and to correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions that are inconsistent with World Trade Organization rules in world agricultural markets;

10. *Notes with great concern* that the poorest population spends a larger share of income on food, which means that even a small increase in food prices can be devastating, and that food price shocks are a driver of increased poverty, in particular in rural areas;

11. *Calls upon* all countries to promote agricultural and rural development in their national policies and renew their efforts to promote innovative approaches, including agroecology, among other approaches, to enhance capacity for food production, distribution and storage, cooperate in the relevant areas of science, research, technology and innovation, as appropriate and consistent with national policies and frameworks, to strengthen sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition, including sustainable productivity growth, significantly reducing food loss and waste, and strengthen policies that support small-scale producers in engaging in agriculture and food system value chains;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of employment for pro-poor growth in rural areas, and encourages the United Nations system and development partners to assist countries, upon their request, in mainstreaming employment into investment policy and poverty reduction strategies, including those focused on rural area development, and fostering rapid agricultural productivity growth, especially in developing countries, by increasing investment in agricultural and related rural off-farm activities and strengthening capacity-building for agricultural producers;

13. *Also recognizes* the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development which can diversify income opportunities as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, especially in rural areas, supporting inclusive, sustained and sustainable economic growth, and thus in contributing to achieving sustainable development in developing countries, and calls upon international industrial cooperation to advance inclusive and sustainable industrialization and innovation and help developing countries to improve industrial production capacity;

14. *Further recognizes* the need to design, implement and pursue gender-responsive economic and social policies aimed at, inter alia, eradicating poverty, including in rural areas, and combating the feminization of poverty, ensuring the full and equal participation of rural women in the development, implementation and follow-up of development policies and programmes and poverty eradication strategies, supporting increased rural employment and decent work and the redistribution of unpaid domestic and care work, and promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of women at all levels and sectors of the rural economy and in diverse on-farm and off-farm economic activities, including sustainable agricultural and fisheries production;

15. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations, the private sector and other partners to develop programmes to foster the creation of decent work in rural areas and increase the investment in agricultural and related off-farm activities, especially for young people;

16. *Emphasizes* that, globally, 1.4 billion people, primarily in rural areas in developing countries, do not have access to formal financial services, and encourages further efforts of the international community to offer affordable ways to access finance for the financially excluded in rural areas;

17. *Also emphasizes* the need to increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient rural infrastructure, especially in roads, water, sanitation, electricity and Internet connectivity, and to provide an inclusive and sustainable digital transformation;

18. *Expresses its commitment* to raising public awareness to promote the eradication of poverty and extreme poverty in all countries, to mobilizing the enthusiasm and creativity of all stakeholders, especially the rural residents

living in extreme poverty, to fight against poverty, to promoting their active participation in the design and implementation of programmes and policies that affect them, and to providing quality education for the rural poor, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda;

19. *Reiterates* the need for enhanced and expanded access on mutually agreed terms by developing countries to appropriate technologies that are pro-poor and raise productivity, and underlines the need for measures to increase investment in agriculture, including modern technologies, as well as in natural resources management and capacity-building of developing countries;

20. *Stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty also hinge on the ability and readiness of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance commitments and use official development assistance effectively, and facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries, on mutually agreed terms, and further 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;

21. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the diverse needs of and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing many middle-income countries, and therefore requests the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that these diverse and specific development needs 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;

22. *Realizes* that bridging the digital divide will require strong commitment by all relevant stakeholders at the national and international levels, reiterates the importance of investing in infrastructure for greater access to affordable technological devices and services for rural populations, which includes leveraging technology-enabled financial services and financial technologies to promote financial inclusion, and encourages efforts by all relevant stakeholders, especially United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in the spirit of win-win cooperation, to assist developing countries in overcoming the digital divide and promoting the use of information and communications technologies to foster economic and social development, particularly in rural areas, with the aim of building a shared future for humankind;

23. *Recognizes* the devastating impact of diseases on societies, and calls for measures by relevant United Nations bodies, in accordance with their respective mandates, and other stakeholders to make good use of their experience and advantages to further help developing countries with the aim of improving rural development planning, including poverty eradication and multisectoral development activities covering economic and social aspects, including a gender perspective;

24. *Reiterates* the urgent need to accelerate the pace of rural poverty eradication, and requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the secretariat of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as other relevant international organizations, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution in order to identify the progress achieved, gaps and challenges faced in rural poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, as well as the means of implementation to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and address its impacts, and to list rural poverty eradication as a priority for an annual Sustainable Development Goals moment to highlight inspiring action on the Goals, in the context of the general debate of the General Assembly;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

RESOLUTION 77/184

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/448/Add.1, para. 8)[569]

77/184. 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,[570] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[571] 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 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,

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[569] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

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

[571] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

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;[572]

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 Development[573] 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;

5. *Continues to re-emphasize* 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 indicators[574] 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

[572] A/77/69-E/2022/47 and A/77/69/Add.1-E/2022/47/Add.1.

[573] Resolution 70/1.

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

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 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".

RESOLUTION 77/185

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/448/Add.2, para. 8)[575]

77/185. South-South cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 73/291 of 15 April 2019, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

Reaffirming also its resolution 64/222 of 21 December 2009, in which it endorsed the Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

Reaffirming further its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,[576]

Recalling its resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 60/212 of 22 December 2005, 62/209 of 19 December 2007, 63/233 of 19 December 2008, 64/1 of 6 October 2009, 66/219 of 22 December 2011, 67/227 of 21 December 2012, 68/230 of 20 December 2013, 69/239 of 19 December 2014, 70/222 of 22 December 2015, 71/244 of 21 December 2016, 72/237 of 20 December 2017, 73/249 of 20 December 2018, 74/239 of 19 December 2019, 75/234 of 21 December 2020 and 76/221 of 17 December 2021,

Reaffirming 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,

[575] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee.

[576] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

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 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 further the Paris Agreement[577] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[578] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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

Reaffirming that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development, and is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation, and commending the contributions of all stakeholders of South-South and triangular cooperation, based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation to support developing countries in the COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery,

Welcoming the convening of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and taking note of the adoption of its outcome document, the Bridgetown Covenant,[579] and looking forward to the continued work of the Conference on issues related to South-South cooperation, triangular cooperation and regional cooperation, including by promoting dialogue between economic integration structures with a view to enhancing mutual trade and exchanging best practices and experiences, towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Recalls* the convening of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019 and its outcome document,[580] and calls upon the international community to support the full implementation of the outcome document of the second High-level Conference;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation;[581]

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[577] Adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[578] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[579] TD/541/Add.2.

[580] Resolution 73/291, annex.

[581] A/77/297.

3. *Reaffirms its support* for the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, recalls its decisions 20/1 and 20/2 adopted during its twentieth session, held from 1 to 4 June 2021, and calls for the full implementation of the outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;

4. *Encourages* the continuation and advancement of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation on efforts for COVID-19 response and recovery from the socioeconomic effects of the pandemic and other multiple crises in the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[582] and its Sustainable Development Goals, and calls for continued support from the relevant United Nations development system entities in that regard, particularly in areas such as equitable and non-discriminatory access to safe, quality, effective and affordable health care and services and medical supplies and equipment, including diagnostics, therapeutics, medicine and vaccines, as well as digitalization, the environment, climate change, social protection and the eradication of poverty;

5. *Takes note* of the various experiences and locally driven development approaches to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and reiterates the importance of learning and sharing good practices, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation through platforms such as South-South Galaxy, the Global South-South Development Expo, regional sustainable development forums and other knowledge-sharing platforms supported by the different entities of the United Nations system;

6. *Welcomes* the organization of the eleventh Global South-South Development Expo in Bangkok from 12 to 14 September 2022, under the theme "Advancing South-South and triangular cooperation for sustainable COVID-19 recovery: towards a smart and resilient future";

7. *Looks forward* to the Third South Summit, to be held in Kampala from 10 to 12 December 2023;

8. *Also looks forward* to the ministerial meeting on South-South cooperation, to be held in Doha in March 2023, on the margins of the second part of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

9. *Takes note* of the recommendations of the Secretary-General, including scaling up contributions to the United Nations trust fund for South-South cooperation and other relevant financing mechanisms to enable the United Nations development system to advance South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives championed by developing countries, with sufficient resources;

10. *Encourages* United Nations entities to support developing countries in integrating development cooperation perspectives, including, in particular, South-South and triangular cooperation perspectives, into the preparation and presentation of the voluntary national review reports on sustainable development;

11. *Notes* that, within the context of the broader reforms of the United Nations development system, the United Nations system-wide strategy on South-South and triangular cooperation has the potential to enhance the role and impact of South-South and triangular cooperation through galvanizing the expertise of United Nations organizations to support South-South and triangular cooperation, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations development system, including United Nations entities, to continue mainstreaming South-South and triangular cooperation into the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, at the country level, as appropriate, as a means to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, commends the efforts of the different entities of the United Nations system and the regional commissions to promote South-South and triangular cooperation, takes note with appreciation of the work done by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, through inclusive mechanisms, in particular South-South cooperation initiatives established by developing countries, and calls upon it to work in collaboration with the United Nations system organizations and the regional commissions to mainstream South-South and triangular cooperation, including through regional collaborative frameworks for South-South and triangular cooperation;

12. *Welcomes* the development of an initial conceptual framework for the measurement of South-South cooperation, which marks a breakthrough in its measurement, as well as the role of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development co-custodianship in undertaking the work on this framework, including on capacity-building, led by countries of the global South and building on country-led mechanisms, and acknowledges the importance of exploring possible options for the measurement of triangular cooperation;

[582] Resolution 70/1.

13. *Recognizes* the need to scale up and strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation, including for the use, capacity-building and transfer of digital technologies, on mutually agreed terms, to close the digital divides;

14. *Also recognizes* the contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in sustainable development, as well as in achieving the overarching goal of the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions;

15. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Operational activities for development", the sub-item entitled "South-South cooperation for development", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a comprehensive report on the state of South-South cooperation, including the implementation of the outcome document of the second High-level Conference.

RESOLUTION 77/186

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/449, para. 14)[583]

77/186. Agriculture development, food security and nutrition

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/178 of 20 December 2010, 66/220 of 22 December 2011, 67/228 of 21 December 2012, 68/233 of 20 December 2013, 69/240 of 19 December 2014, 70/223 of 22 December 2015, 71/245 of 21 December 2016, 72/238 of 20 December 2017, 73/253 of 20 December 2018, 74/242 of 19 December 2019, 75/235 of 21 December 2020 and 76/222 of 17 December 2021,

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

Recalling the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,[584] particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security, and noting the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,[585] as well as the Framework for Action,[586] which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for use by Governments, as appropriate, adopted at the Second International Conference on Nutrition, held in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014,

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[583] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[584] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

[585] World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annex I.

[586] Ibid., annex II.

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[587] Agenda 21,[588] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[589] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[590] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[591] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[592] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[593] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[594] the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries[595] for the decade 2022–2031, the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024[596] and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[597]

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement,[598] and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[599] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, and noting with concern the scientific findings contained in the contributions of Working Groups I, II and III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, entitled *Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis*, *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability* and *Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change*, and the special reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C*, *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* and *Climate Change and Land*,

Welcoming the holding of the Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General on 23 September 2019, taking note of the multi-partner initiatives and commitments presented during the Summit, taking note also of the Youth Climate Summit, held on 21 September 2019, and noting the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 20 November 2022,

Welcoming also the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019, and its outcome document,[600] and recognizing the important role that South-South and triangular cooperation play in fostering partnerships among developing countries that lead to the end of poverty and hunger and to the achievement of food security and improved nutrition, as well as the promotion of sustainable agriculture,

Welcoming further the Sustainable Development Goals Summit, held in New York on 24 and 25 September 2019, on gearing up for a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, as well as the convening of the Sustainable Development Goals Moments, in the context of the high-level week of the General Assembly, and taking note of the *Global Sustainable Development Report 2019* and the 2020, 2021 and 2022 editions of the *Sustainable Development Goals Report*,

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[587] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[588] Ibid., annex II.

[589] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[590] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[591] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[592] *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.

[593] Resolution 60/1.

[594] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[595] Resolution 76/258, annex.

[596] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[597] Resolution 69/15, annex.

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

[599] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[600] Resolution 73/291, annex.

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[601] and reaffirming also the importance of promoting the integration of food security and the nutritional needs of urban residents, particularly the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, in order to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition, as well as promoting the coordination of policies on sustainable food security and agriculture across urban, peri-urban and rural areas,

Reaffirming also the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its 10-year plan of action, 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 and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

Recalling the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis, held in New York on 26 September 2018, and its outcome,[602] the third high-level meeting of the Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, held in New York on 27 September 2018, and its political declaration,[603] the High-level Interactive Dialogue on Antimicrobial Resistance, held in New York on 29 April 2021, and the action plan on antimicrobial resistance 2021–2025 of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as resolution 6/2019 of 28 June 2019 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, on antimicrobial resistance,[604] and noting the 2019 report of the ad hoc inter-agency coordination group on antimicrobial resistance,

Expressing concern that the current pace and scope of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 2 is unlikely to promote the transformational change needed and that its targets will not be achieved in many parts of the world, and calling for additional efforts to support the transformational change needed,

Expressing concern also that the multiple and complex causes of the food crises that occur in different regions of the world, affecting developing countries, especially net food importers, and their consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments, civil society, the private sector and the international community, reiterating that the root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition are poverty, growing inequality, inequity and lack of access to resources and income-earning opportunities, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the effects of climate change, biodiversity loss, and disasters, conflicts and geopolitical tensions, and remaining concerned that excessively volatile food prices can pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and improved nutrition and to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition, and the fulfilment of the right to adequate food,

Recalling the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,[605] and taking note of the Seoul Forest Declaration, adopted on 6 May 2022 at the fifteenth World Forestry Congress, which acknowledge that forests provide essential products and ecosystem services, such as timber, food, fuel, fodder, non-wood products and shelter, as well as soil and water conservation and clean air, that sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests is vital to the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and that forests and sustainable forest management prevent land degradation and desertification and reduce the risks of floods, landslides and avalanches, droughts, dust and sand storms, wildfires and other disasters, and stressing in this regard the role of all types of forests, including boreal, temperate and tropical forests, in providing food security and nutrition,

Recalling also the forty-seventh, forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 8 to 11 February 2021, on 4 June 2021 and from 11 to 14 October 2021, respectively, taking note of their main outcomes, and welcoming the adoption by the Committee of the voluntary guidelines on food systems

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[601] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[602] Resolution 73/3.

[603] Resolution 73/2.

[604] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2019/REP, appendix C.

[605] See resolution 71/285.

and nutrition and of the policy recommendations on agroecological and other innovative approaches to sustainable agriculture and food systems that enhance food security and nutrition,

Taking note of the fiftieth session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 10 to 13 October 2022, and looking forward to the adoption of its final report, including the policy recommendations on promoting youth engagement and employment in agriculture and food systems for food security and nutrition,

Taking note also of the high-level special event on the theme "Time to act together: coordinating policy responses to the global food crisis", co-convened by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session and the Chair of the Committee on World Food Security on 18 July 2022,

Taking note with appreciation of the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit, convened by the Secretary-General on 23 and 24 September 2021, as well as its pre-Summit, held from 26 to 28 July 2021 in Rome, and noting the Chair's Summary and Statement of Action on the United Nations Food Systems Summit, issued by the Secretary-General,

Taking note of the Matera Declaration on Food Security, Nutrition and Food Systems adopted by the Group of 20,

Welcoming resolution 7/2019 of 28 June 2019 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, entitled "Further integration of sustainable agricultural approaches, including agroecology, in the future planning activities of FAO",[606] and recognizing that agroecology is one approach, among others, to contribute to sustainably feeding a growing population,

Taking note of the launch of the Sustainable Food Systems Programme under the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns,[607] an inclusive initiative to accelerate the shift towards sustainable food systems,

Encouraging Member States to advance innovative pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 4/1 of 15 March 2019,[608]

Recalling the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, which is helping the least developed countries to strengthen their science, technology and innovation capacities and fostering the development of national and regional innovation ecosystems, as well as developing capacities for partnerships in science, technology and innovation collaboration with other countries worldwide,

Noting with appreciation the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the Joint Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations/International Atomic Energy Agency Centre of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture, on agricultural development and on achieving food security and improving nutrition and food safety,

Recalling the declaration of 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, based on the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action, and the call upon the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization to implement a work programme for 2016–2025, taking into account contributions from relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, civil society and academia, using coordinating mechanisms such as UN-Nutrition[609] and inclusive multi-stakeholder platforms such as the Committee on World Food Security,

Recalling also its resolution 72/239 of 20 December 2017, in which it proclaimed 2019–2028 the United Nations Decade of Family Farming, which raises the profile of the role of family farming in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to the achievement of food security and improved nutrition, and its resolution 73/284 of 1 March 2019, in which it proclaimed 2021–2030 as the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration,

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[606] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2019/REP, appendix D.

[607] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

[608] UNEP/EA.4/Res.1.

[609] See https://unnutrition.org/.

which highlights the important role of ecosystem restoration, including of productive ecosystems, in achieving sustainable development,

Taking note of the realization of the first Global Forum of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028) hosted virtually by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development from 19 to 22 September 2022, welcoming the respective commitments made by Governments to support family farming and implement the Decade through inclusive efforts, including the adoption by 11 Governments of national action plans for family farming, and recognizing that approximately 40 Governments are also developing their national action plans,

Reaffirming that agriculture remains a fundamental and key sector for developing countries, and noting the importance of working towards eliminating all forms of protectionism,

Acknowledging the importance of promoting sustainable farming and agriculture, which will contribute to sustainable food production systems and the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems and help to eradicate hunger and malnutrition,

Emphasizing that water is critical for sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger, that water, energy, food security and nutrition are linked, and that water is indispensable for human development, health and well-being,

Noting with concern the findings of the first report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on the State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, of 2019, and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and bearing in mind that the agriculture sector depends heavily on biodiversity and its components, as well as on the ecosystem functions and services which biodiversity underpins, and that these sectors also have an impact on biodiversity in various direct and indirect ways, as acknowledged in the Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being,[610]

Acknowledging the work done by the Global Soil Partnership for the past decade to raise global and local awareness of the importance of sustainable soil management for global food security, and taking note of initiatives under the Global Soil Partnership, including the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Soil Management,

Reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain their physical and mental capacities, and underlining the need to make special efforts to meet nutritional needs, especially of women, children, older persons, Indigenous Peoples and persons with disabilities, as well as of those living in vulnerable situations,

Recognizing that infant and young child mortality can be reduced through the improved nutritional status of women of reproductive age, especially during pregnancy, and that exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life is optimal for child survival and nutrition and the promotion of health and cognitive development, as well as an important principle of healthy diets, including through continued breastfeeding until 2 years of age and beyond combined with appropriate complementary feeding, and highlighting that despite the steady progress made with regard to exclusive breastfeeding, with 43.8 per cent of infants under 6 months of age exclusively breastfed worldwide in 2020, immense efforts will be required to meet the global nutrition targets of the 2030 Agenda and that even this indicator requires accelerated progress,

Taking note of the publications entitled *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022: Repurposing Food and Agriculture Policies to Make Healthy Diets More Affordable*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme and the World Health Organization, and *The State of Food and Agriculture 2022: Leveraging Automation in Agriculture for Transforming Agrifood Systems*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

[610] United Nations Environment Programme, document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/24.

Taking note also of the publication entitled *A Multi-Billion-Dollar Opportunity: Repurposing Agricultural Support to Transform Food Systems*, issued by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme,

Remaining deeply concerned that, according to the most recent estimates of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Food Programme and the World Health Organization, the number of chronically undernourished people in the world increased and that between 702 and 828 million people faced hunger in 2021, considering that the number has grown by about 150 million since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, meaning around 103 million more people between 2019 and 2020 and 46 million more in 2021, and that global nutrition challenges are increasingly complex as multiple forms of malnutrition, including stunting, wasting, underweight, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity, may coexist within the same country or household, with almost 3.1 billion people unable to afford a healthy diet in 2021,[611]

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 that the COVID-19 pandemic, its impacts and the extraordinary measures adopted to combat it have delivered one of the most devastating blows to global food security and nutrition in recent times, with a disproportionate impact on women and children, and deeply concerned about the assessment that world hunger rose further in 2021, reflecting exacerbated inequalities across and within countries,

Recognizing also that economic downturns, gender inequalities, conflicts, biodiversity loss, drought and the adverse effects of climate change, including more frequent and extreme weather events, are among the key factors contributing to a reversal in the long-term progress in fighting global hunger, making the prospect of ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030 more difficult,

Noting with concern the rise of food and agricultural input prices, including fertilizer prices, and the shortages caused by supply chain disruptions, affecting crop yields and threatening future agricultural productivity and production, as well as the continued crisis in supply chains and the disruption to transport and shipping, contributing to a surge in shipping and transport costs, particularly affecting developing countries,

Welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General and other parties in coordinating a comprehensive global response to mitigate global food insecurity and its humanitarian impact through the parallel implementation of the Black Sea Grain Initiative,[612] launched and implemented, inter alia, with the support of Türkiye, and the memorandum of understanding on trade facilitation,[613]

Welcoming also the establishment of the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance, chaired and convened by the Secretary-General,

Remaining deeply concerned about the continuing food insecurity and malnutrition being faced by hundreds of millions of people, in particular in sub-Saharan Africa, in South and West Asia and in parts of Latin America,

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[611] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Fund for Agricultural Development, United Nations Children's Fund, World Food Programme and World Health Organization, *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022: Repurposing Food and Agricultural Policies to Make Healthy Diets More Affordable* (Rome, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2022).

[612] Initiative on the Safe Transportation of Grain and Foodstuffs from Ukrainian Ports.

[613] Memorandum of understanding between the Russian Federation and the Secretariat of the United Nations on promoting Russian food products and fertilizers to the world market.

Recognizing the need to prevent the recurrence in the future of deaths of people from famine,

Expressing its concern about the growing number of obese adults in the world, with prevalence at 13.1 per cent in 2016, and that 38.9 million children under 5 years of age (5.7 per cent) were overweight in 2021,

Expressing concern that, according to the Global Report on Food Crises 2022 midyear update, about 205 million people face crisis-level food insecurity or worse and are in need of urgent assistance in 45 countries affected by, inter alia, conflict and exacerbated by climate-related events, environmental factors, including disasters caused by natural or human-made hazards such as locust infestation, and extreme food price volatility,

Noting that an increasing number of countries, in particular in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Pacific, are integrating food security and nutrition into their agriculture policies and investment plans and that, as a result, eradicating hunger, improving food security and ensuring adequate nutrition are being given greater prominence in regional development strategies, such as the African Union Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations food security and nutrition strategy, the Piura Declaration on Food Security, the Framework for Multi-Year Programme on Food Security and Climate Change and the Strategic Framework on Rural-Urban Development to Strengthen Food Security and Quality Growth, adopted by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, the Hunger-Free Latin America and the Caribbean 2025 Initiative, the "25 by 2025" initiative of the Caribbean Community, which seeks to reduce the region's food import bill by 25 per cent by 2025, the strategy on food security and nutrition of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, the Arab food security initiative, the initiative for the Adaptation of African Agriculture to Climate Change and the climate-smart agriculture strategy for the Central American Integration System region (2018–2030), all of which emphasized the importance of investing in agriculture, diversifying food production and diets and providing quality nutritional education to consumers, introducing labour-saving technologies in food production and processing, enhancing women's access to income and strengthening capacity-building in improving food safety at all stages of the food chain, and noting also the establishment of the Islamic Organization for Food Security, headquartered in Astana,

Reiterating the urgent need for action to enhance efforts to build resilience, especially for the most vulnerable, by investing in resilience of agriculture and food systems, including disaster risk reduction, and to scale up anticipatory approaches, early warning and early action systems, forecasting, prevention-oriented responses and emergency preparedness and improve predictive and risk data analytics across sectors, reinforce systematic risk monitoring, early warning and preparedness capacities at the local, national, regional and global levels, strengthening adaptation strategies in close coordination with disaster risk management and enhancing joint risk assessments and risk management strategies, and to cut the impact and cost of disasters caused by natural or human-made hazards so as to address the adverse effects of climate change on food security, in particular for women, youth, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and persons with disabilities, as well as the other root causes of food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition,

Expressing concern that climate change will disproportionately impact people in vulnerable situations, especially women and children, and their livelihoods, ultimately putting hundreds of millions of people at risk, and that by 2050, the risk of hunger and child malnutrition could increase by up to 20 per cent owing to climate change,

Reiterating the importance of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, as well as the recognition and protection of the rights of smallholders, particularly women, reiterating also the importance, inter alia, of supporting the empowerment of rural women, youth, small-scale farmers, family farmers and livestock farmers, fishers and fish workers as critical agents for enhancing agricultural and rural development, food security and nutrition, and acknowledging their fundamental contribution to the environmental sustainability and the genetic preservation of agricultural systems and to sustaining productivity on often marginal lands,

Recognizing that livestock contributes 40 per cent of the global value of agricultural output and supports the livelihoods and food security of almost 1.3 billion people, and in this regard acknowledging that the sector offers opportunities for agricultural development, poverty eradication and food security gains, and offers an opportunity for raising climate awareness,

Recognizing also that fisheries and aquaculture support the livelihoods of approximately 600 million people and the food security of 3.3 billion people globally, and in this regard acknowledging that the sector offers opportunities for poverty eradication while improving maternal health and the nutrition and cognitive development of children,

Acknowledging that social protection programmes and measures are effective in reducing poverty and hunger,

Noting the importance of initiatives under the United Nations system, including the observance of World Pulses Day, World Tuna Day, Sustainable Gastronomy Day, World Bee Day, World Food Safety Day, World Soil Day, World Seagrass Day, the International Year of Camelids, the International Day and Year of Plant Health, the International Year of Fruits and Vegetables, the International Year of Millets, International Tea Day, International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste, the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development, 2022, the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028) and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030), aimed at increasing public awareness of relevant agriculture, food security and nutritional benefits, in accordance with General Assembly 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,

Recognizing the need to increase responsible public and private investments and partnerships in the agriculture sector, inter alia, to find inclusive solutions to and fight hunger and all forms of malnutrition and to promote rural and urban sustainable development,

Recalling the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and its guiding principles,[614] and recalling also its promotion of regular disaster risk preparedness, prevention, response and recovery exercises, at the national and local levels, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs,

Noting that, in 2011, an initial estimate reported that one third of the food produced annually in the world for human consumption, equivalent to some 1.3 billion tons, was lost or wasted, while it is estimated that there are up to 828 million people in the world who are hungry and that globally in 2021, among children under 5 years of age, an estimated 149 million (22 per cent) were stunted and 45.4 million (6.7 per cent) were wasted,

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and acknowledging that reaching Goal 2 and the interlinked targets of other Goals will be critical, inter alia, in ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[615]

2. *Urges* Member States and all relevant stakeholders to advance collective actions to address the multiple and widespread impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, conflicts, climate change and biodiversity loss on agriculture development, food security and nutrition, to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[616]

3. *Calls for* the implementation of the respective voluntary commitments of the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit, takes note of the operationalization of the United Nations Food Systems Coordination Hub, hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on behalf of the United Nations system, and looks forward to the 2023 stocktaking moment of the United Nations Food Systems Summit;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of international cooperation, multilateralism and solidarity in the global response to support the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, including towards achieving universal health coverage, social protection, technological transfer on mutually agreed terms, capacity-building and financial support for sustainable agricultural development in developing countries as an important tool for achieving food security and nutrition for all;

5. *Recalls* its resolution 76/264 of 23 May 2022 on the state of global food insecurity, and reiterates its call to the international community to urgently support countries affected by the food security crisis through coordinated actions, including the provision of emergency food supplies, food programmes, financial support, and increased and

[614] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[615] A/77/241.

[616] Resolution 70/1.

diversified agricultural production, and to promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization;

6. *Calls upon* the international financial institutions to find urgent, affordable and timely solutions to support developing countries, in particular those highly indebted, in responding to the food security crisis, through, but not limited to, facilitating, as appropriate, access to debt relief, concessional finance and grants, and takes note with appreciation of the temporary Food Shock Window of the International Monetary Fund;

7. *Emphasizes* that sustainable agricultural production, food security, nutrition and food safety are key elements for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and calls for greater efforts to sustainably enhance the agricultural production capacities, productivity and food security of developing countries;

8. *Expresses concern* that the world is not on track to eradicate hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030 and that scarce and unsustainably managed natural resources, combined with insecure and uneven tenure rights for smallholders, are severely affecting those in vulnerable situations in rural areas, that the adverse effects of climate change, including persistent and recurring drought, floods, extreme weather events, land degradation, coastal erosion, ocean acidification, the retreat of mountain glaciers, sea level rise and desertification, as well as conflict and post-conflict situations, are challenges with regard to food security and nutrition and diet-related non-communicable diseases in many places, preventing progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that countries in protracted crises are at risk of being left behind;

9. *Stresses* that urgent and concerted action is needed at all levels to recover momentum and accelerate efforts to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition, comprehensively tackling both its causes and effects, and to promote improved nutrition and sustainable agriculture and food systems;

10. *Reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that improving food security and nutrition is a global challenge and a national policy responsibility and that any plans for addressing this challenge in the context of eradicating poverty must be nationally articulated, designed, owned, led and built in consultation, as an inclusive process, with all key stakeholders at the national level as appropriate, and urges Member States, especially those affected, to make food security, nutrition and food safety a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

11. *Underscores* the need to safeguard food security and nutrition for all, including women, children, youth, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, persons with disabilities and those living in vulnerable situations, inter alia by promoting economic and social policies to counteract the adverse impact of economic slowdowns and downturns on efforts to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition;

12. *Calls upon* the international community to continue its support for the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and its results framework, which is an integral component of the Programme that provides guidance on planning and implementing investment programmes, and in this regard welcomes the establishment of the 1.5 billion United States dollar African Emergency Food Production Facility by the African Development Bank to boost food security, nutrition and resilience on the continent;

13. *Encourages* Member States, in designing their national policies, to fully take into account the Rome Declaration on Nutrition as well as the Framework for Action, which provides a set of voluntary policy options and strategies for the use of Governments, as appropriate;

14. *Urges* increased political commitment by Member States to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition, notes in this regard the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, and encourages Member States to engage in the movement at the global and country levels to reduce the increasing level of global hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in particular among children, especially children under 2 years of age, women, especially those who are pregnant and lactating, and youth;

15. *Underscores* the need to address child stunting, which remains unacceptably high, with nearly 149.2 million children under 5 years of age, or 22 per cent, affected by stunting in 2020;

16. *Encourages* Member States to increase investment in the development, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of laws, policies and programmes aimed at the protection and promotion of, including education on and support for, breastfeeding, including through multisectoral approaches and awareness-raising, and the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers;

17. *Emphasizes* the six global nutrition targets set by the World Health Assembly to address global malnutrition by 2025 and the related monitoring framework;

18. *Takes note* of the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth Summit, convened by the Government of Japan on 7 and 8 December 2021, and the Tokyo Compact on Global Nutrition for Growth, which includes 396 new commitments made by 181 stakeholders to tackle malnutrition in all its forms;

19. *Stresses* the need to increase sustainable agricultural production and productivity globally, noting the diversity of agricultural conditions and systems, including by improving and aiming to ensure the functioning of markets and trading systems and strengthening international cooperation, particularly for developing countries, and by increasing responsible public and private investments and partnerships in sustainable agriculture, land management and rural development, as well as collaboration in science, technology and innovation, and notes that the benefit of such public and private investment and engagement should also reach, where appropriate, local smallholders in appropriate knowledge management systems and communications systems with regard to promoting food security, improving nutrition and reducing inequality;

20. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience, productivity and sustainability of food and agricultural production with regard to climate change in the context of the rising demand for crops and food, bearing in mind the importance of safeguarding food security and ending hunger and the particular vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss, and encourages efforts at all levels to support climate-sensitive agricultural practices, including agroforestry, agroecology, conservation agriculture, water management schemes, drought- and flood-resistant seeds and sustainable livestock management, and to establish and strengthen interfaces between scientists, decision makers, entrepreneurs and funders of science, technology and innovation, as well as measures to strengthen the resilience of those in vulnerable situations and of food systems, which can also have a wider positive impact, emphasizing adaptation to climate change as a major concern and objective for all farmers and food producers, especially small-scale producers;

21. *Stresses* the urgent need to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change, and further urges Member States to continue to engage in adaptation planning processes and the implementation of mitigation actions;

22. *Calls for* the strengthening of agrifood systems and the promotion of sustainable practices in agriculture and soil management to improve adaptation and resilience to climate change, including through ecosystem services and biodiversity preservation, and also calls for poverty, hunger, food security and nutrition objectives to be incorporated into national climate change adaptation and mitigation plans;

23. *Recognizes* the critical role of the private sector in support of sustainable food systems and the positive contribution and improved quality of multi-stakeholder partnerships as a means to engage all key actors, and stresses the need for further efforts to strengthen strategic partnerships with the private sector;

24. *Reaffirms* the need to promote, enhance and support sustainable agriculture, including crops, forestry, fisheries, livestock and aquaculture, that improves food security, eradicates hunger, helps to prevent malnutrition and is economically viable, while conserving land, water, plant and animal genetic resources, biodiversity and ecosystems and enhancing resilience to climate change and disasters caused by natural or human-made hazards, and recognizes the need to maintain natural ecological processes that support sustainable and efficient food production systems and ensure food security, underlines the importance of mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the agriculture sector, and takes note of the importance of the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems and the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform promoted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

25. *Calls for* increased ambition and urgency of action to protect working animals and to strengthen global efforts to ensure that animal health can contribute to addressing challenges and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/1 of 2 March 2022, entitled "Animal welfare-environment-sustainable development nexus",[617] and emphasizes the importance of the One Health approach and other holistic approaches that deliver multiple benefits to the health and well-being of people, animals, plants and ecosystems;

[617] UNEP/EA.5/Res.1.

26. *Recognizes* the importance of the mechanization of agriculture to sustainable agricultural systems, including economic, social and environmental resilience, and therefore the delivery of the 2030 Agenda;

27. *Expresses concern* about antimicrobial resistance, including in the agriculture sector, and in this regard encourages the implementation of the action plan on antimicrobial resistance 2021–2025 of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which supports the food and agriculture sectors in implementing the global action plan on antimicrobial resistance[618] developed by the World Health Organization in collaboration with, and subsequently adopted by, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organization for Animal Health, in order to minimize the impact of antimicrobial resistance;

28. *Recognizes* that sustainable agriculture and food systems have a fundamental role to play in promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition and preventing and controlling non-communicable diseases, and welcomes the formulation and implementation of national policies aimed at eradicating malnutrition in all its forms and transforming agriculture and food systems so as to make nutritious diets, including traditional healthy diets, available to all, while reaffirming that health, water and sanitation systems must be strengthened simultaneously to end malnutrition;

29. *Calls for* closing the gender gap in access to productive resources in agriculture, noting with concern that the gender gap persists with respect to many assets, inputs and services, and stresses the need to invest in and strengthen efforts to support the empowerment of all women and girls, in particular rural women, to address their own food and nutritional needs and those of their families, to promote adequate standards of living for them, as well as decent work, and to guarantee their personal health, well-being and security, full access to land and natural resources and access to affordable, low-cost, long-term loans and to local, regional and global markets, taking into account that the prevalence of food insecurity puts the health and lives of women and children at risk;

30. *Recognizes* 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, and in this regard stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that the critical role of women in food security and nutrition is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to food insecurity, malnutrition, potential excessive price volatility and food crises in developing countries, as well as of the recognition and protection of the land rights of smallholders, in particular women;

31. *Reaffirms* the crucial role of healthy marine ecosystems, sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture in enhancing food security and access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food and in providing for the livelihoods of millions of people, particularly those in small island developing States, and in this regard encourages the full implementation of the Global Action Programme on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States, which was launched on 4 July 2017;

32. *Encourages and recognizes* the efforts at all levels to establish and strengthen social protection measures and programmes, including national safety nets and protection programmes for the needy and those in vulnerable situations, such as food and cash-for-work, cash transfer and voucher programmes, school feeding programmes and mother-and-child nutrition programmes, and in this regard underlines the importance of increasing investment, capacity-building and systems development, by aligning interventions with national and regional response plans, making full use of endogenous mechanisms, including local, national and regional reserves;

33. *Encourages* Member States to develop health- and nutrition-promoting environments, including through nutrition education in schools and other education institutions, as appropriate, and to scale up community-based actions that support children and families, through the promotion of maternal health and recommended infant feeding practices such as breastfeeding;

34. *Remains deeply concerned* about the recurring food insecurity and malnutrition in different regions of the world and their ongoing negative impact on health and nutrition, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, in South and West Asia and in parts of Latin America, and in this regard underlines the urgent need for joint efforts at all levels to respond to the situation in a coherent and effective manner;

35. *Recognizes* the important role of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, small-scale farmers, family farmers, livestock farmers, small-scale fishers and fish workers and their traditional knowledge and seed supply

[618] World Health Organization, document WHA68/2015/REC/1, annex 3.

systems, as well as the important role of new technologies in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and in aiming to ensure food security and improved nutrition;

36. *Stresses* the importance of the development and application of science, technology and innovation and related knowledge management and communications systems in ensuring food security by 2030, encouraging cooperation on agricultural science and technology innovation among countries and reducing technology barriers and restrictions on high-tech exchanges, and encourages the adoption of the most advanced and appropriate information technology, such as the Internet, mobile platforms, meteorology, big data and cloud computing, in agriculture systems in order to support the efforts of smallholder and family farmers to increase their resilience, productivity and incomes and include them in the development of research and innovation agendas while reducing negative environmental impacts;

37. *Emphasizes* the need to revitalize the agriculture sector, promote rural development and aim for ensuring food security and nutrition, notably in developing countries, in a sustainable manner, which will contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and underlines the importance of taking the necessary actions to better address the needs of rural communities by, inter alia, enhancing access for agricultural producers, in particular small producers, women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, persons with disabilities and older persons, and those in vulnerable situations and in conflict and post-conflict situations, to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health-care services, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including for development of local crops, efficient irrigation, reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage;

38. *Notes* the urgent need to address the issue of food loss and waste at all stages of the food supply chain, including through collaboration with relevant stakeholders;

39. *Emphasizes* the need to enhance the efficiency of water use for agriculture and at all stages of the food production and supply chain, and in this regard looks forward to the convening of the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, in New York from 22 to 24 March 2023;

40. *Recognizes* that, by 2050, the world urban population is expected to nearly double, making urbanization one of the most transformative trends of the twenty-first century, underscoring the growing need to take action to fight hunger and malnutrition among the urban poor through promoting the integration of the food security and nutrition needs of urban residents, in particular the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, to end hunger and malnutrition, promoting the coordination of policies on food security and sustainable agriculture across urban, peri-urban and rural areas to facilitate the production, storage, transport and marketing of food to consumers in adequate and affordable ways, to reduce food losses and to prevent and reuse food waste, and promoting the coordination of food policies with energy, water, health, transport and waste and other policies in urban areas to maximize efficiencies and minimize waste;

41. *Reaffirms* the need to strive for a comprehensive twin-track approach to food security and nutrition that consists of direct action to immediately tackle hunger and address micronutrient deficiencies among the most vulnerable alongside the development of medium- and long-term sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition and rural development programmes to eliminate the root causes of hunger, all forms of malnutrition and poverty, including through revitalizing rural areas for young women and men, by creating decent jobs for all, through agricultural education systems, information and communications technology, training, scaling up research and development and strengthening the role of youth through education, entrepreneurship, access to markets and services, co-financing, capacity-building and rural-based youth organizations, and through the full realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security;

42. *Also reaffirms* the need to promote a significant expansion of research on food, nutrition and agriculture, as well as the expansion of extension services, training and education, and development and application of technologies, and of funding for such activities from all sources, to improve agricultural productivity and sustainability in order to strengthen agriculture as a key sector, to promote development and to build up resilience to support better recovery from crisis, including by strengthening the work of the reformed Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR) so as to enhance its development impact, supporting national research systems, public universities and research institutions and promoting technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, the voluntary sharing of knowledge and practices and research to adapt to climate change and improve equitable access to research

results and technologies on mutually agreed terms at the national, regional and international levels, while giving due consideration to the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources;

43. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to achieving food security and improving nutrition, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the inclusive participation of farmers and fishers and fish workers, especially small-scale farmers, including women, in community, national, regional and international markets;

44. *Underlines* the importance of addressing existing and emerging global challenges, including through the facilitation of agricultural trade and by correcting and preventing trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets that are inconsistent with World Trade Organization rules, such as excessive stockpiling of food, and looks forward to continuing the World Trade Organization negotiations to reform agricultural trade rules, with a view to addressing these global challenges, where possible, at the thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization;

45. *Recognizes* the efforts made by Member States and United Nations agencies that have already announced their commitments to the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016–2025), and encourages all relevant stakeholders to actively support the implementation of the Decade, including by making commitments and establishing action networks;

46. *Also recognizes* the commencement of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (2019–2028), and in this regard encourages the full implementation of resolution 72/239 and takes note with appreciation of the global action plan for the Decade, which supports the development, improvement and implementation of public policies on family farming, including national plans, as appropriate, based on inclusive and effective governance and on timely and geographically relevant data, by 2024;

47. *Invites* Governments to enhance efforts to reach 100 national action plans for family farming by 2024 as envisaged by the Global Action Plan of the Decade, encourages Governments, family farmers' organizations and other relevant stakeholders to engage in the Decade, and calls upon the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development to continue leading the implementation of the Decade, in collaboration with other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including by considering developing a joint resource mobilization strategy to scale up the implementation of the Decade;

48. *Stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization, the regional commissions and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions and international trade and economic institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates and national development priorities, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation between these organizations and with non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in promoting and strengthening efforts towards sustainable agriculture development, food security and nutrition;

49. *Recognizes* the contribution made thus far by early warning systems, and underlines that the reliability and timeliness of such systems should be further strengthened at the national, regional and international levels, with a focus on countries that are particularly vulnerable to price shocks and food emergencies;

50. *Reaffirms* the important role and inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security as a major intergovernmental platform for a broad range of stakeholders to work together towards ensuring food security and nutrition for all, and encourages countries to promote the use and application of the voluntary guidelines on food systems and nutrition, adopted by the Committee in 2021, supporting the transformation towards sustainable food systems that contribute to the promotion of healthy diets and improved nutrition;

51. *Also reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session an action-oriented report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Agriculture development, food security and nutrition".

RESOLUTION 77/187

Adopted at the 53rd plenary meeting, on 14 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 159 to 8, with 10 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/450, para. 15)[619]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Canada, Chad, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Togo, Tuvalu

77/187. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/225 of 17 December 2021, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2022/22 of 22 July 2022,

Recalling also its resolutions 58/292 of 6 May 2004 and 59/251 of 22 December 2004,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981 and 2334 (2016) of 23 December 2016,

Recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970,

Bearing in mind its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[620] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Recalling, in this regard, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[621] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[622] and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan,

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[619] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Türkiye.

[620] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[621] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[622] Ibid.

Recalling also the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[623] and recalling further its resolutions ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004 and ES-10/17 of 15 December 2006,

Recalling further its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Taking note of the accession by Palestine to several human rights treaties and the core humanitarian law treaties, as well as to other international treaties,

Expressing its concern about the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its grave concern about the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including the uprooting of a vast number of fruit-bearing trees and the destruction of farms and greenhouses, and the grave environmental and economic impact in this regard,

Expressing its grave concern also about the widespread destruction caused by Israel, the occupying Power, to vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip during the military operations of July and August 2014, which, inter alia, has polluted the environment and which negatively affects the functioning of water and sanitation systems and the water supply and other natural resources of the Palestinian people, and stressing the urgency of the reconstruction and development of water and other vital civilian infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip,

Expressing its grave concern further about the negative impact on the environment and on reconstruction and development efforts of unexploded ordnance that remains in the Gaza Strip as a result of the conflict in July and August 2014, and commending the efforts of the Mine Action Service of the United Nations for the safe removal of such ordnance,

Expressing its grave concern about the chronic energy shortage in the Gaza Strip and its detrimental impact on the operation of water and sanitation facilities, which threaten to further erode groundwater resources, of which only 5 per cent remains potable,

Recalling the 2009 report by the United Nations Environment Programme regarding the grave environmental situation in the Gaza Strip, and relevant reports by the United Nations country team, including "Gaza in 2020: a liveable place?", "Gaza: two years after" and "Gaza ten years later", and stressing the need for follow-up to the recommendations contained therein,

Deploring the detrimental impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially as a result of the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources, including the destruction of orchards and crops and the seizure of water wells by Israeli settlers, and of the dire socioeconomic consequences in this regard,

Recalling the report of the independent international fact-finding mission to investigate the implications of the Israeli settlements on the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,[624]

Aware of the detrimental impact on Palestinian natural resources being caused by the unlawful construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, and of its grave effect as well on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people,

Stressing the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement on all tracks, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002 and 2334 (2016), the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[625] and the Quartet performance-based road map to a permanent

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[623] See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

[624] A/HRC/22/63.

[625] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[626] as endorsed by the Council in its resolution 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and supported by the Council in its resolution 1850 (2008) of 16 December 2008,

Stressing also, in this regard, the need for respect for the obligation upon Israel under the road map to freeze settlement activity, including so-called "natural growth", and to dismantle all settlement outposts erected since March 2001,

Stressing further the need for respect and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Recalling that the Security Council, in its resolution 2334 (2016), underlined that it would not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 lines, including with regard to Jerusalem, other than those agreed by the parties through negotiations,

Recalling also the need to end all acts of violence, including acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction,

Taking note of the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan, as transmitted by the Secretary-General,[627]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and of the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land, water and energy resources;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease the exploitation, damage, cause of loss or depletion and endangerment of the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, damage, loss or depletion or endangerment of their natural resources resulting from illegal measures taken by Israel, the occupying Power, and Israeli settlers in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with within the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Stresses* that the wall and settlements being constructed by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, are contrary to international law and are seriously depriving the Palestinian people of their natural resources, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations affirmed in the 9 July 2004 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice[628] and in relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution ES-10/15;

5. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, and to cease immediately and completely all policies and measures aimed at the alteration of the character and status of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

6. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to bring a halt to all actions, including those perpetrated by Israeli settlers, harming the environment, including the dumping of all kinds of waste materials, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely water and land resources, and which pose an environmental, sanitation and health threat to the civilian populations;

7. *Further calls upon* Israel to cease its destruction of vital infrastructure, including water pipelines, sewage networks and electricity networks, and to cease its demolition and confiscation of Palestinian homes and civilian infrastructure, agricultural lands and water wells, which, inter alia, have a negative impact on the natural resources of the Palestinian people, stresses the urgent need to advance reconstruction and development projects in this regard,

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[626] S/2003/529, annex.

[627] A/77/90-E/2022/66.

[628] See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

including in the Gaza Strip, and calls for support for the necessary efforts in this regard, in line with the commitments made at, inter alia, the Cairo International Conference on Palestine: Reconstructing Gaza, held on 12 October 2014;

8. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to remove all obstacles to the implementation of critical environmental projects, including sewage treatment plants in the Gaza Strip and the reconstruction and development of water infrastructure, including the project for the desalination facility for the Gaza Strip;

9. *Also calls upon* Israel not to impede Palestinian development and export of discovered oil and natural gas reserves;

10. *Calls for* the immediate and safe removal of all unexploded ordnance in the Gaza Strip and for support for the efforts of the Mine Action Service of the United Nations in this regard, and welcomes the extensive efforts exerted by the Mine Action Service to date;

11. *Encourages* all States and international organizations to continue to actively pursue policies to ensure respect for their obligations under international law with regard to all illegal Israeli practices and measures in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, particularly Israeli settlement activities and the exploitation of natural resources;

12. *Underscores*, in this regard, the call by the Security Council, in its resolution 2334 (2016), upon all States to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including with regard to the cumulative impact of the exploitation, damage and depletion by Israel of natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, and with regard to the impact of such practices on the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals,[629] and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

RESOLUTION 77/244

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/441, para. 16)[630]

77/244. Promotion of inclusive and effective international tax cooperation at the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing that combating illicit financial flows is an essential development challenge, noting that developing countries are particularly susceptible to the negative impact of illicit financial flows, emphasizing that illicit financial flows reduce fiscal space along with the availability of valuable resources for financing for development, and recognizing the importance of cooperation at the national, regional and international levels in combating illicit financial flows and promoting financial transparency,

Noting the corrosive effect that aggressive tax avoidance and tax evasion have on trust, the social compact, financial integrity, the rule of law and sustainable development, affecting the poorest and most vulnerable,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, in which Member States committed to scaling up international tax cooperation, encouraged countries, in accordance with their national capacities and circumstances, to work together to strengthen transparency and adopt appropriate policies, including multinational enterprises reporting country-by-

[629] See resolution 70/1.

[630] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

country to tax authorities where they operate, access to beneficial ownership information for competent authorities, and progressively advancing towards automatic exchange of tax information among tax authorities as appropriate, with assistance to developing countries, especially the least developed, as needed, and stressed that efforts in international tax cooperation should be universal in approach and scope and should fully take into account the different needs and capacities of all countries, in particular countries in special situations,

Recalling the commitment of Member States under the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to redouble efforts to substantially reduce illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation,

Noting that its resolution 69/313 also commits Member States to working to improve the fairness, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of their tax systems,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention against Corruption[631] and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[632]

Recalling the high-level meeting on international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return, convened by the President of the General Assembly at United Nations Headquarters on 16 May 2019,

Reiterating its commitment to financial integrity for sustainable development, including by strengthening work to enable global reporting of data consistent with the definitions for the measurement of illicit financial flows agreed in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[633] and indicator 16.4.1, endorsed by all Member States at the fifty-third session of the Statistical Commission,[634]

Recognizing the need for all countries to work together to eliminate tax evasion, tax base erosion and profit shifting and to ensure that all taxpayers, including multinational companies, pay taxes to the Governments of countries where economic activity occurs and value is created, in accordance with national and international laws and policies,

Recalling the importance of the consideration of international tax cooperation at the United Nations,

Noting the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and the 2022 special meeting of the Economic and Social Council on international cooperation in tax matters,

Noting also the work of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development/Group of 20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting,

Noting further the implementation of the Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information in Tax Matters under a common reporting standard developed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, as well as the role of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes,

Recalling the work of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax, which is to intensify collaboration and coordination on tax issues between the United Nations, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development,

Noting the Group of 20 Ministerial Tax Symposium on Taxation and Development, which was held in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, on 14 July 2022,

Noting also the work of the Addis Tax Initiative in fostering collective action to strengthen the capacities of developing countries for closing recognized gaps in development finance,

Recognizing the need to strengthen international cooperation on tax matters in a more inclusive intergovernmental forum,

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[631] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[632] Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[633] Resolution 70/1.

[634] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2022, Supplement No. 4* (E/2022/24), chap. I, sect. C.

Taking note of resolution 990 (LIV) on curbing illicit financial flows and recovery of lost assets of 17 May 2022, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development,[635]

Taking note also of the statement of the Secretary-General, in his report on international coordination and cooperation to combat illicit financial flows, that the Secretariat can provide expertise and knowledge to support Member States to take the next steps needed to ensure inclusive international tax cooperation and coordination,[636]

1. *Recognizes* the timeliness and importance of strengthening international tax cooperation to make it fully inclusive and more effective;

2. *Decides* to begin intergovernmental discussions in New York at United Nations Headquarters on ways to strengthen the inclusiveness and effectiveness of international tax cooperation through the evaluation of additional options, including the possibility of developing an international tax cooperation framework or instrument that is developed and agreed upon through a United Nations intergovernmental process, taking into full consideration existing international and multilateral arrangements;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report analysing all relevant international legal instruments, other documents and recommendations that address international tax cooperation, considering, inter alia, avoidance of double taxation model agreements and treaties, tax transparency and exchange of information agreements, mutual administrative assistance conventions, multilateral legal instruments, the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, the work of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development/Group of 20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting and other forms of international cooperation, as well as outlining potential next steps, such as the establishment of a Member State-led, open-ended ad hoc intergovernmental committee to recommend actions on the options for strengthening the inclusiveness and effectiveness of international tax cooperation;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, when preparing the report, to consult with Member States, the members of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, the Platform for Collaboration on Tax, and other international institutions and relevant stakeholders;

5. *Decides* to consider the report at its seventy-eighth session and to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "Promotion of inclusive and effective international cooperation on tax matters at the United Nations".

RESOLUTION 77/245

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/443/Add.2, para. 14)[637]

77/245. Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway[638] is a stand-alone, overarching framework setting out the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States that builds on the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[639] and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island

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[635] See E/ECA/CM/54/6.

[636] See A/77/304.

[637] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[638] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[639] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Developing States,[640] and recognizing that the Samoa Pathway is consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[641] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[642] and is in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[643] the New Urban Agenda[644] and the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[645]

Reaffirming also that small island developing States remain a special case for sustainable development, renewing thus our solidarity with them, as they continue to face the combined challenges arising, in particular, from their geographical remoteness, the small scale of their economies, high costs and the adverse effects of climate change and natural disasters, and remaining particularly concerned that many small island developing States have not achieved sustained high levels of economic growth, owing in part to their vulnerabilities to the ongoing negative impacts of environmental challenges and external economic and financial shocks,

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,

Acknowledging the severe consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for the sustainable development of small island developing States envisioned in the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda, including the far-reaching and enduring consequences for poverty eradication, employment, growth and social welfare as a result of the unprecedented contraction of their economies, and noting with concern that the external debt stocks of small island developing States have increased by 70 percentage points since 2009, resulting in the average rate of external debt to gross domestic product in those States rising by 11 percentage points to 61.7 per cent in 2019, while the ability of those States to self-insure against exogenous shocks continues to deteriorate further, highlighting that achieving the Goals and targets set out in the 2030 Agenda will be more difficult and that integrating the concept of resilience is critical to enable a sustainable future and avoid creating new risks,

Recognizing with grave concern that small island developing States saw their external debt position deteriorate further in 2021, reaching new record levels of 66.1 billion dollars and raising the ratio of debt service costs to export revenues from 37 per cent in 2019 to 41.1 per cent in 2021,

Acknowledging the need for urgent action to address the adverse impacts of climate change, including those related to sea level rise and extreme weather events, which continue to pose a significant risk to small island developing States and to their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for many, represent the gravest of threats to their survival and viability, including, for some, through loss of territory, as well as through threats to water availability and food security and nutrition,

Taking note with concern of the findings contained in the recent reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, in particular the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and the special reports of the Intergovernmental Panel entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C, Climate Change and Land* and *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*,

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[640] *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[641] Resolution 70/1.

[642] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[643] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[644] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[645] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

Noting the importance of oceans, seas and marine resources to small island developing States, owing to their unique characteristics, dependence on and particular exposure to the ocean and its biodiversity, and noting also the central role of the ocean in the culture, livelihoods and sustainable development of the peoples of small island developing States,

Acknowledging the efforts of small island developing States to develop and implement strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources, in this regard reiterating the calls made in the declarations entitled "Our ocean, our future: call for action"[646] and "Our ocean, our future, our responsibility",[647] adopted, respectively, at the 2017 and 2022 United Nations Conferences to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, acknowledging also the further enhanced actions to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, with a particular focus on its targets 14.2, 14.4, 14.5 and 14.6, which matured in 2020,[648] and renewing the commitment to taking urgent action and to cooperating at the global, regional and subregional levels to achieve all targets as soon as possible without undue delay,

Noting with concern the findings of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, recalling the convening of the summit on biodiversity on 30 September 2020 and the first part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, hosted by China from 11 to 15 October 2021, and looking forward to the second part, to be held in Canada from 7 to 9 December 2022, at which a post-2020 global biodiversity framework will be adopted,

Noting with concern also the impact of plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, on small island developing States, encouraging further efforts at all levels to prevent, reduce and eliminate plastic pollution, as well as welcoming the decision by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme at its resumed fifth session, in resolution 5/14 of 2 March 2022,[649] to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment,

Underscoring the importance of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and noting that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, as well as an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda for small island developing States and other developing countries,

Recognizing the long-standing cooperation and support provided by the international community, which has played an important role in helping small island developing States to make progress in addressing their vulnerabilities and in supporting their sustainable development efforts, and recalling paragraph 19 of the Samoa Pathway, which calls for strengthening this cooperation, and paragraph 22 of the Samoa Pathway, which underscores the urgency of finding additional solutions to address the major challenges facing small island developing States,

Reaffirming the need to mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects, and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to enable small island developing States to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[650]

2. *Recalls* the convening of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway on 27 September 2019 and the adoption on 10 October 2019 of its political declaration,[651] and looks forward to the full and urgent implementation of the calls made in the political declaration;

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[646] Resolution 71/312, annex.

[647] Resolution 76/296, annex.

[648] Ibid.

[649] UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

[650] A/77/218.

[651] Resolution 74/3.

3. *Reiterates* the call to the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies to monitor the full implementation of the Declaration of Barbados[652] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Samoa Pathway, including through the monitoring frameworks of the regional commissions, and recalls the discussion during the 2022 high-level political forum on sustainable development on the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States, with the aim of enhancing engagement and implementing commitments;

4. *Underlines* the need to give due consideration to the issues and concerns of small island developing States in all relevant major United Nations conferences and processes and the relevant work of the United Nations development system, and calls for the elaboration of information specific to small island developing States in a disaggregated manner in all major United Nations reports, where appropriate;

5. *Welcomes* resolution 5/14 adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session, in which it decided to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastics;

6. *Recalls with concern* the findings and conclusions of the needs assessment resulting from the expanding mandates of the small island developing States units of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and emphasizes the need for allocation of adequate resources commensurate with the mandates of these units, taking into account the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States and its preparatory process;

7. *Welcomes* the continuing commitment of the international community to take urgent and concrete actions to address the vulnerabilities of small island developing States and to continue to seek new solutions to the major challenges facing them in a concerted manner in order to support the full implementation of the Samoa Pathway;

8. *Calls for* immediate and substantial actions to facilitate the responses of small island developing States to recover from the crisis caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and address the unprecedented health and economic crisis in these States, while preserving their sustainable development achievements and commitments, and reinforce their resilience to climate change in line with the Samoa Pathway and the political declaration of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, notes with appreciation the recommendations of the Co-Chairs of the round-table process entitled "SIDS access to finance – identifying solutions for resilient COVID-19 recovery", invites Member States to consider the statement and call to action from the second round-table dialogue on small island developing States and access to finance, held on 7 October 2021, and to join the Group of Friends of Small Island Developing States, and welcomes the commitments made by the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, in the communiqué of its high-level meeting of 2020, to improve policies and programmes to address the particular needs of small island developing States;

9. *Recognizes* that small island developing States face significant challenges in accessing sufficient affordable financing for sustainable development, including concessional financing, and in this regard encourages providers of development finance to consider the specific vulnerabilities of small island developing States in order to strengthen development cooperation;

10. *Recalls* the Secretary-General's recommendations and guiding principles on the development and coordination of work within the United Nations system on a multidimensional vulnerability index for small island developing States, including on its finalization and potential uses, also recalls the establishment of a representative high-level panel of experts co-chaired by the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne, and the former Prime Minister of Norway, Erna Solberg, welcomes the progress of the High-level Panel on the Development of a

[652] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

Multidimensional Vulnerability Index for Small Island Developing States on its work and on its interim report, and in this regard:

(a) Supports the proposed definitions for structural vulnerability and resilience and the two-level structure outlined in the report as the basis for the Panel's continued work, guiding the selection of appropriate indicators to inform vulnerability across all sectors of sustainable development, the proposed governance structure and the development of the country vulnerability-resilience profiles;

(b) Notes the request of the Panel for an extension of time to complete its work, and decides to request the Panel to finalize its work on the index, in full consultation with all Member States and other relevant stakeholders, in accordance with the terms of reference for the High-level Panel, and to convene additional consultations, as necessary, to address these and other relevant issues, taking into account the written submissions submitted to date, and to submit its final report no later than 30 June 2023;

11. *Reiterates* that small island developing States continue to face loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow-onset events, resulting in unprecedented social, economic and environmental challenges that push debt to unsustainable levels, and in this regard calls for urgent and ambitious global action, in line with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[653] and the Paris Agreement to avert, minimize and address the threat and impact of climate change on small island developing States;

12. *Takes note* of the Secretary-General's findings regarding the limited capacity of small island developing States, including upper-middle-income and high-income small island developing States, to gain access to disaster-related funding owing to differing eligibility criteria and the quantum of resources required to gain access thereto, as well as the need for an enabling environment at all levels, invites international financial institutions to revise eligibility criteria and modalities that prevent access to resources, taking into consideration multidimensional vulnerabilities, and urges the international community to enhance the allocation of and access to sustainable and predictable financing for disaster risk reduction and other preventive measures as part of a comprehensive risk management framework that matches the scale of existing and future disaster risks, while taking into account the barriers that have prevented the effective mobilization of critical financing to small island developing States, especially for implementation of associated plans and strategies devised by small island developing States;

13. *Reaffirms* that official development assistance, both technical and financial, can foster resilient societies and economies, and calls upon the international community to mobilize additional development finance from all sources and at all levels to support small island developing States' efforts;

14. *Recognizes with concern* the transition challenges encountered by small island developing States that have graduated or are about to graduate from least developed country status, remains mindful that graduation must not disrupt a country's development progress, and stresses the need for the development and implementation of a viable multiannual transition strategy to facilitate each small island developing State's graduation, with the support of the international community where appropriate, to mitigate against, inter alia, the possible loss of concessionary financing, to reduce the risks of falling heavily into debt and to ensure macrofinancial stability;

15. *Reiterates* the call to relevant institutions to learn from one another's efforts to address the diverse circumstances of countries, to better manage transitions and graduation, recognizes that official development assistance should continue to focus on countries most in need, and takes note of a willingness to develop a wider analysis of new measures, building on existing experiences with eligibility exceptions, for concessional finance and multidimensional assessments, to address the limitations of an income-only assessment of development and graduation readiness;

16. *Reiterates* the call to Member States to invite the World Bank to consider reviving the high-level working group among the development banks and its partners to review the rules governing access for small island developing States to concessional finance;

17. *Underlines* the need to take targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, to reduce inequalities and to promote the implementation of nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for the poor and those in vulnerable situations;

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[653] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

18. *Recognizes* that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in small island developing States is not possible without private investment, including long-term foreign investment, which can be facilitated and attracted through the creation of an enabling environment and capacity support for small island developing States;

19. *Recalls* the comprehensive review of the least developed country criteria by the Committee for Development Policy in 2020, and looks forward to the next review process;

20. *Welcomes* the establishment of the United Nations Small Island Developing States Partnerships Awards to recognize and reward the efforts of the best and most noteworthy, genuine and durable partnerships in the implementation of the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States, consistent with the Samoa Pathway and in line with the Small Island Developing States Partnerships criteria and norms;

21. *Reaffirms* the commitment to take urgent and concrete action to address the vulnerability of small island developing States, including through the sustained implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Samoa Pathway, and underlines the urgency of finding additional solutions to the major challenges facing small island developing States in a concerted manner so as to support them in sustaining the momentum realized in implementing the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy and the Samoa Pathway and achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

22. *Also reaffirms* its call to convene in 2024, the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States which will be aimed at assessing the ability of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development, including the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, and decides that the international meeting will be convened in the second or third quarter of 2024 for a duration of no more than five days;

23. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to host the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States in 2024;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, by 2024, the allocation of adequate resources to respond to the expanding mandates of the small island developing States units of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the High Representative in support of the sustainable development agenda of the small island developing States and the forthcoming fourth International Conference for Small Island Developing States and its preparatory process;

25. *Reiterates* its call for the Secretary-General to continue to use his convening powers to continue to work on devising solutions for small island developing States in relation to debt vulnerability in the immediate term and debt sustainability in the long term, with due regard to multidimensional vulnerability, including the potential of a multidimensional vulnerability index, as criteria to access concessional finance, and in this regard invites the Secretary-General to consider requesting that a wide variety of stakeholders, including the United Nations system, international financial institutions, development banks and multilateral development partners, convene a high-level meeting during the Conference to discuss the mobilization of resources for small island developing States;

26. *Decides* that the Conference should:

(a) Assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps and challenges in the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy and the Samoa Pathway, including the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework, building on, inter alia, existing reports and relevant processes, stressing the importance of continued substantive consideration of the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, and the previous programmes of action for small island developing States, and seek a renewed political commitment by all countries to address effectively the special needs and vulnerabilities of small island developing States by focusing on practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy and the Samoa Pathway, inter alia, through the mobilization of targeted resources, including domestic and private investment, and assistance for small island developing States;

(b) Identify new and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of small island developing States and ways and means to address them, including through the strengthening of collaborative partnerships between small island developing States and the international community, and further identify priorities for the sustainable development of small island developing States for consideration, consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference

on Financing for Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the New Urban Agenda and the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

27. *Acknowledges* that small island developing States have demonstrated their commitment to promoting sustainable development and, to that effect, have mobilized resources at the national and regional levels despite their limited resource base, and welcomes the long-standing cooperation and support provided by the international community and the private sector, which have played an important role in helping small island developing States to make progress in addressing their vulnerabilities and in supporting their sustainable development efforts;

28. *Calls for* continued and enhanced efforts to assist small island developing States and for a strengthening of United Nations system support to small island developing States, in keeping with the multiple ongoing and emerging challenges faced by those States to achieving sustainable development;

29. *Decides* to convene in 2023, prior to the commencement of the seventy-eighth session, a regional preparatory meeting in each of the three regions of small island developing States, as well as an interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States, to identify and develop input for the Conference, while maximizing coherence and complementarity with respect to other preparatory work;

30. *Also decides* that the national, regional, interregional and substantive preparations should be carried out in a most effective, well-structured and broad participatory manner and that, for this purpose, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, through its Small Island Developing States Unit, the Office of the High Representative and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and available resources, should provide the necessary support to the Conference and its preparatory process;

31. *Further decides* that the Conference will result in an intergovernmentally agreed, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented political outcome document;

32. *Decides* to establish a preparatory committee to make the organizational, procedural and substantive preparations for the Conference, which will hold a one-day organizational session in the first half of 2023 and two sessions, of no more than five days each, in the first half of 2024, and also decides that the Bureau of the preparatory committee shall consist of two members from each regional group, as well as ex officio members from the host country and the Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States, and that the committee shall elect two Co-Chairs from among the nominated Bureau members, one from a developed State and one from a developing State;

33. *Invites* regional groups to nominate their candidates for the 10-member Bureau of the preparatory committee no later than 31 January 2023, so that they can be involved in the preparations for the first meeting of the preparatory committee, and invites the Bureau to convene further meetings of the preparatory committee on an informal basis in New York, as required and in the most efficient and effective manner, to conclude discussions on the draft outcome document of the Conference;

34. *Decides* that the preparatory committee, during its organizational session in the first half of 2023, will adopt decisions and, as appropriate, make recommendations to the General Assembly on the additional modalities and format of the Conference and how it can be organized in the most efficient and effective manner;

35. *Agrees* that the Conference will be convened at the highest possible level and will include a high-level segment;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all appropriate support to the work of the preparatory process of the Conference and to the Conference itself and to ensure inter-agency cooperation and effective participation and coherence within the United Nations system, as well as the efficient use of resources, so that the objectives of the Conference can be addressed;

37. *Decides* that the Conference and its preparatory committee shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies, that the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission on Sustainable Development by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995, shall apply to the meetings of the preparatory committee, and that the preparatory committee shall consider and adopt the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference taking into consideration the established practice of the General Assembly and its conferences;

38. *Invites* relevant stakeholders, including organizations and bodies of the United Nations, international financial institutions and major groups identified in Agenda 21,[654] to participate as observers in the Conference and the meetings of the preparatory committee;

39. *Calls for* the participation of associate members[655] of the regional commissions in the Conference and the meetings of the preparatory committee, in the same capacity specified for their participation in the global conferences on the sustainable development of small island developing States held in 1994, 2005 and 2014;

40. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General for the Conference at the earliest possible date;

41. *Urges* international and bilateral donors, as well as the private sector, financial institutions, foundations and other donors to support the preparations for the Conference through voluntary contributions to the trust fund in support of preparations for the Conference and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries, priority being given to small island developing States, including coverage of economy-class air tickets, daily subsistence allowances and terminal expenses, and invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of developing countries in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Conference itself;

42. *Stresses* the need for the effective participation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and other major groups, particularly from small island developing States, in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Conference itself, as appropriate, and invites voluntary contributions to support their participation;

43. *Recognizes* that improved data collection and statistical analysis are required to enable small island developing States to effectively plan, follow up on, evaluate and track the implementation and achievement of the 2030 Agenda, including its Sustainable Development Goals, and other internationally agreed development goals, and in this regard recalls the adoption and finalization of the monitoring framework for the Samoa Pathway, further encourages small island developing States to utilize the framework for reporting ahead of the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States, reiterates the call for meaningful partnerships with small island developing States to assist with strengthening their statistical offices and to provide enhanced support in developing national capacities for improved data collection and statistical analysis, including high-quality and disaggregated data, welcomes the launch of the Data Platform for the Small Island Developing States by the United Nations Development Programme at the Wadadli Action Platform convened in Saint John's on 8 and 9 August 2022, and further calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to update the General Assembly on this matter;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-eighth session, a report on the follow-up to and implementation of the Samoa Pathway, including on progress made and continuing challenges faced, on the implementation of the present resolution, building on the discussions and outcomes of the national, regional and interregional preparatory meetings, as well as the preparatory process for convening the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States and the final report of the High-level Panel on the Development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index;

45. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States".

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[654] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992, vol. I: Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II. The major groups identified in Agenda 21 are women, children and youth, Indigenous Peoples and their communities, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, workers and trade unions, business and industry, scientific and technological communities, and farmers.

[655] American Samoa, Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Curaçao, French Polynesia, Guadeloupe, Guam, Martinique, Montserrat, New Caledonia, Puerto Rico, Sint Maarten, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands.

RESOLUTION 77/246

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/446/Add.2, para. 8)[656]

77/246. Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration,[657] the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024[658] and the Political Declaration of the High-level Midterm Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,[659]

Reaffirming the overarching goal of the Vienna Programme of Action of addressing the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries arising from their landlockedness, remoteness and geographical constraints in a more coherent manner and thus contributing to an enhanced rate of sustainable and inclusive growth, which can contribute to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty,

Recalling its resolutions 71/239 of 21 December 2016, 72/232 of 20 December 2017, 73/243 of 20 December 2018, 74/233 of 19 December 2019, 75/228 of 21 December 2020 and 76/217 of 17 December 2021,

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,

Reaffirming 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 also 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 further the Paris Agreement[660] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[661] that have

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[656] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

[657] Resolution 69/137, annex I.

[658] Ibid., annex II.

[659] Resolution 74/15.

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

[661] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,[662] while recognizing that landlocked developing countries face some specific disaster risk challenges, and reiterating the commitment to addressing disaster risk reduction and building resilience to disasters within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication,

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,[663] and recognizing the importance of sustainable urban development for landlocked developing countries,

Welcoming the adoption of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries,[664] which represents a new generation of renewed and strengthened commitments between the least developed countries and their development partners, including the private sector, civil society and governments at all levels, cognizant that many landlocked developing countries belong to the least developed country category,

Welcoming also the holding of the Ministerial Transport Conference of the Landlocked Developing Countries in Turkmenbashi, Turkmenistan, on 15 and 16 August 2022, on the theme "Ashgabat process: financing for better connectivity", and taking note of its outcome, the Awaza summary statement,[665]

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets and high transit costs and risks, continues to pose serious constraints on the overall growth and socioeconomic development of landlocked developing countries,

Acknowledging the importance of promoting collaboration between landlocked developing countries and transit countries on the basis of common interest, and noting that collaboration efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national priorities, while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments,

Recognizing the transport infrastructure gap in landlocked developing countries and the need to bring the level of transport infrastructure up to global standards and, in this regard, the crucial importance of strong national and international partnerships to bridging the gap and enhancing existing transport infrastructure facilities,

Acknowledging the need to promote meaningful regional integration to encompass cooperation among countries for the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action,

Recognizing that it is important for all countries, including landlocked developing countries, to commit to a world in which all women and girls enjoy full gender equality with all men and boys and all legal, social and economic barriers to their empowerment and equality have been removed,

Taking note of the declaration of the annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries, which was held at United Nations Headquarters on 22 September 2022 on the theme "Accelerating implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and building momentum towards the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries",

Noting with great concern that the number of deaths due to COVID-19 in landlocked developing countries more than tripled between April 2021 and April 2022, to 157,000, and only 26 per cent of the population was fully vaccinated at the end of April 2022, compared with 59 per cent worldwide, the severe negative impact on human health, safety and well-being caused by the 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 often the hardest hit by the pandemic,

Concerned by the ongoing disruption in trade logistics that continues to hamper global value chains and by the high cost of global supply chains, recognizing that landlocked developing countries are highly dependent on transit

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[662] Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

[663] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[664] Resolution 76/258, annex.

[665] A/77/343, annex.

countries to access international markets, are particularly vulnerable to cross-border restrictions in combating the spread of COVID-19 and the social and economic impacts of lockdown measures related to it, the health effects of the pandemic, commodity price shocks and a global recession, recognizing also that the COVID-19 pandemic abruptly halted progress in almost all priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action and increased the challenge of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 as mobility restrictions amplified existing geographical and structural vulnerabilities and that, for landlocked developing countries, the fiscal implications of the pandemic have led to an increased risk of debt distress, with approximately 34.3 per cent of landlocked developing countries now assessed to be at high risk of or already in debt distress, limiting the fiscal and policy space for critical investments in a sustainable and inclusive recovery, and recalling the road map for the accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in the remaining five years adopted by the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries on 23 September 2020,

Recognizing that the Vienna Programme of Action, which is integral to the 2030 Agenda, is based on renewed and strengthened partnerships for supporting landlocked developing countries in harnessing benefits from international trade, structurally transforming their economies and achieving more inclusive and sustainable growth,

Taking note of the outcome document of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Barbados from 3 to 7 October 2022, the Bridgetown Covenant,[666] the outcome document of the twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Geneva from 12 to 17 June 2022, the "Bali agenda for resilience" adopted during the seventh session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 28 May 2022, and the convening of the second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference, held in Beijing from 14 to 16 October 2021,

Taking note also of the Joint Inspection Unit review[667] of United Nations system support for landlocked developing countries to implement the Vienna Programme of Action, in which concern was expressed about the vast gaps between the expectations from the work of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to deliver and the existing resources of the subprogramme on landlocked developing countries,

Reaffirming the recognition of the special needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries in the 2030 Agenda and in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and affirming further that their effective implementation, together with the implementation of the six priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action, which builds upon the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[668] can drive the social and economic progress of landlocked developing countries and assist in their transformation from landlocked to land-linked countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024;[669]

2. *Recalls* the convening of the comprehensive high-level midterm review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 in New York on 5 and 6 December 2019 and the high-level Political Declaration, in which all the relevant stakeholders are called upon to commit to the accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action;

3. *Underlines* the need to give particular attention to the concerns and specific challenges of landlocked developing countries in all relevant major United Nations conferences and processes;

4. *Recognizes* that the adverse global economic conditions, including stalled growth, surging inflation, the energy crisis, high sovereign debt levels, volatile commodity prices, rising food prices and dysfunctions in global food security, skyrocketing shipping costs, supply chain and production disruptions and elevated shipping and trade costs,

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[666] TD/541/Add.2.

[667] JIU/REP/2021/2.

[668] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.

[669] A/77/269.

are constraining landlocked developing countries from recovering from the socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;

5. *Calls upon* States to ensure the normal functioning of open markets, global supply chain connectivity and cross-border travel for essential purposes, and to enhance the sustainability and resilience of supply chains that foster the sustainable integration of landlocked developing countries and promote inclusive economic growth, including through the increased participation of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in international trade and investment;

6. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[670] to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

7. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and transit countries to enhance cross-border collaboration by minimizing disruptions to international transport, eliminating unnecessary trade restrictions and facilitating free movement of, primarily, essential goods such as food, medical supplies and personal protection equipment, consistent with World Trade Organization rules, undertaking coordinated interventions, in particular at the regional level, ensuring the transparency and availability of information about import, export and transit procedures, making use of trade facilitation standards and digital technologies such as the electronic exchange of information and paperless solutions, calls for sustainable, inclusive, affordable and resilient regional and global value chains and transport systems and gender-responsive services to and from landlocked developing countries to help them to respond effectively to the COVID-19 pandemic and prevent future disruptions of a similar nature, while recognizing that regional economic integration is an important driver for sustainable development and integration into the global economy, and invites development partners and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to enhance support to landlocked developing countries and transit countries in implementing the relevant international trade and transport facilitation conventions;[671]

8. *Encourages* the landlocked developing countries, transit countries and development partners to actively engage in the dedicated session on transit issues that will be held annually until the next review of the Trade Facilitation Agreement is completed, pursuant to the decision taken at the twelfth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Geneva from 12 to 17 June 2022, which will contribute to enhancing reforms aimed at facilitating transit for landlocked developing countries;

9. *Invites* the landlocked developing countries, transit countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to implement the relevant actions, consistent with national priorities, agreed upon in the Vienna Programme of Action in its six priority areas in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner;

10. *Invites* Member States that have not yet done so to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action into their national and sectoral development strategies in order to ensure its effective implementation, and encourages development partners, the United Nations system and the relevant international and regional organizations to continue to provide technical support, within their respective mandates, to the landlocked developing countries in their efforts to mainstream the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda into their national development strategies;

11. *Stresses* that the harmonization, simplification and standardization of rules and documentation should be promoted, including the full and effective implementation of international conventions on transport and transit and bilateral, subregional and regional agreements, and invites Member States that have not joined the existing conventions to consider the possibility of accession;

12. *Calls upon* the landlocked developing countries and transit countries, in a coordinated manner, to develop and upgrade international transport and transit corridors encompassing all modes of transportation, including roads, railroads, inland waterways, ports and pipelines, to address the special development needs and challenges of landlocked developing countries;

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[670] Resolution 70/1.

[671] Including the Customs Convention on Containers (Geneva, 2 December 1972), the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Road Vehicles (Geneva, 18 May 1956), the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (Geneva, 14 November 1975), the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (Geneva, 21 October 1982) and the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation (2013).

13. *Recognizes* that investing in the maintenance and development of hard and soft infrastructure can boost pandemic recovery efforts, notes the importance of sound infrastructure governance over the life cycle of the projects to ensure the long-term cost-effectiveness, economic efficiency, accountability, transparency and integrity of infrastructure investment, including through an open procurement process, stresses that the magnitude of the resources required to invest in quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure development and maintenance remains a major challenge that requires the forging of international, regional, subregional and bilateral cooperation on infrastructure projects, the allocation of more resources from national budgets, the effective deployment of international development assistance and multilateral financing in the development and maintenance of infrastructure and the reinforcement of the role of the private sector;

14. *Recognizes* that both public and private investment have key roles to play in sustainable infrastructure financing, including through development banks, development finance institutions and tools and mechanisms such as public-private partnerships, blended finance, which combines concessional public finance, non-concessional private finance and expertise from the public and private sector, special purpose vehicles, non-recourse project financing, risk mitigation instruments and pooled financing structures;

15. *Encourages* multilateral financial and development institutions and multilateral development banks, including regional banks, in collaboration with other stakeholders, including the private sector, to make investments in addressing gaps in renewable energy, information and communications technology, e-commerce, trade, transport and transit-related regional infrastructure;

16. *Calls for* the full and timely implementation of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation annexed to the Protocol amending the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, and in this regard urges members and relevant international and regional organizations to continue to provide and enhance technical and capacity-building assistance, particularly for the effective implementation of the provisions of articles on the release and clearance of goods, border agency cooperation, formalities connected with importation, exportation and transit, freedom of transit and customs cooperation;

17. *Also calls for* renewed and strengthened partnerships to support landlocked developing countries in diversifying their economic base and enhancing value addition to their exports in order to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth;

18. *Reiterates its invitation* to development partners to provide targeted technical and financial support, as appropriate, towards the implementation of the specific actions listed in the Vienna Programme of Action;

19. *Underlines* that South-South and triangular cooperation is vital to the landlocked developing countries, especially in the areas of productive capacity-building and training, infrastructure, energy, water, science and technology, trade, investment and transit transport cooperation, and its significant contributions to short-term pandemic response and long-term COVID-19 recovery, and in this regard highlights the importance of the implementation of the Buenos Aires outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation;[672]

20. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries and their transit country neighbours need to effectively mobilize adequate domestic and external resources for the effective implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, reaffirms that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underlined by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including the implementation of the Programme of Action, and also recognizes that international public finance plays an important role in complementing those efforts, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources;

21. *Also recognizes* the constraints faced by landlocked developing countries in gaining access to sustainable investment, and stresses the need to strengthen capacity-building support for these countries, to integrate sustainable investment approaches into capital market development plans;

22. *Underlines* the prominent role that foreign direct investment plays in accelerating development and poverty reduction through employment, the transfer of managerial and technological know-how, on mutually agreed terms, and non-debt-creating flows of capital, recognizes the considerable role and potential of private sector

[672] Resolution 73/291, annex.

involvement in infrastructure development for transport, telecommunications and utilities for landlocked developing countries, encourages Member States to facilitate foreign direct investment flows to landlocked developing countries in this regard, and calls upon landlocked and transit developing countries to promote an enabling environment to attract foreign direct investment and private sector involvement;

23. *Reiterates* that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, and urges development partners to step up efforts to increase their official development assistance and to make additional concrete efforts to fulfil their respective official development assistance commitments, while noting that official development assistance reached a new peak in 2021;

24. *Recognizes* the essential role of the private sector in the development of landlocked developing countries, and in this regard underlines the need to continue promoting the participation of the private sector in achieving sustainable development and the critical importance of mobilizing private resources, including through foreign direct investment, for the development of landlocked developing countries, taking into account the leading role of Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[673] and the Vienna Programme of Action;

25. *Also recognizes* that the economies of many landlocked developing countries remain reliant on a few export commodities, which often have low value addition and are greatly affected by external shocks, and stresses the need for renewed and strengthened partnerships for development to support landlocked developing countries in diversifying their economic base and enhancing value addition to their exports by entering and moving up global value chains through the development of their productive capacities, including through private sector involvement, and the development and formalization of small and medium-sized enterprises, with a view to increasing the competitiveness of the products of landlocked developing countries in export markets;

26. *Further recognizes* that foreign direct investment can reduce inequalities and help commodity-dependent landlocked developing countries to make the transition to manufacturing activities and other higher value added activities;

27. *Recognizes* the crucial role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in contributing to inclusive growth and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through job creation and improving livelihoods for the poorest and most vulnerable, and in promoting support measures to develop micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in landlocked developing countries, including their formalization and participation in international trade;

28. *Stresses* the need to assist landlocked developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, and sound debt management, as appropriate, and welcomes the multilateral response to the pandemic, including the Group of 20 and Paris Club Debt Service Suspension Initiative, which ended in December 2021, and the Common Framework for Debt Treatments beyond the Debt Service Suspension Initiative;

29. *Invites* development partners to effectively implement the Aid for Trade initiative in assisting landlocked developing countries to address their special needs and requirements, including capacity-building for the formulation of trade policies, participation in trade negotiations and the implementation of trade facilitation measures, as well as the diversification of export products;

30. *Recognizes* that landlocked developing countries are vulnerable to and remain negatively affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, land degradation, desertification, deforestation, receding glaciers, floods, including glacial lake outburst floods, and droughts, recognizes the potential benefits of mutually addressing these challenges, and calls upon the international community to continue to support the efforts of landlocked developing countries towards climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience-building;

31. *Takes note* of scientific research undertaken by the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries, encourages the International Think Tank to continue to undertake its role of supporting the development efforts of the landlocked developing countries, urges those landlocked developing countries that have not yet done so to ratify, at their earliest convenience, the Multilateral Agreement for the Establishment of an International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries, and invites relevant stakeholders to support the International Think Tank;

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[673] Resolution 69/313, annex.

32. *Urges* that coherent and effective linkages be made between the implementation, follow-up and review arrangements for the 2030 Agenda and those of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including the Vienna Programme of Action;

33. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and invites international organizations and relevant regional and subregional organizations, to integrate the Vienna Programme of Action into their programmes of work, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, and to support landlocked and transit developing countries in their implementation of the Programme of Action in a well-coordinated and coherent manner;

34. *Stresses* that, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States should continue to ensure the coordinated follow-up to, effective monitoring of and reporting on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and the outcome of its midterm review and undertake advocacy efforts at the national, regional and global levels;

35. *Recalls* paragraph 78 of the Vienna Programme of Action on the holding of a third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, towards the end of the decade, in order to undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action, and decides to convene the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries in the first half of 2024 for a duration of five days at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government, in line with the mandate specified in resolution 76/217;

36. *Welcomes and accepts with appreciation* the generous offer of the Government of Rwanda to host the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, in Kigali;

37. *Decides* to convene two sessions of the intergovernmental preparatory committee in New York towards the end of 2023 and/or early in 2024, of no more than seven days in total;

38. *Also decides* that the preparatory committee shall have a Bureau consisting of two members from each regional group, that the Bureau shall elect its own Co-Chairs and that the host country and the Chair of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries shall serve as ex officio members of the Bureau;

39. *Further decides* that the Bureau shall be co-chaired by two Member States, comprising one developed State and one developing State;

40. *Invites* regional groups to nominate their candidates for the 10-member Bureau of the preparatory committee no later than 30 June 2023, so that they can be involved in the preparations for the first meeting of the committee;

41. *Invites* the Bureau to convene further meetings on an informal basis in New York, as required and in the most efficient and effective manner, to discuss the draft outcome document of the Conference;

42. *Decides* that the Conference and the meetings of its preparatory committee shall provide for the full and effective participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies, that the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission on Sustainable Development by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995, shall apply to the meetings of the committee, as applicable, and that the committee shall consider and adopt the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference, taking into consideration the established practice of the General Assembly, except as otherwise provided in the present resolution;

43. *Also decides* that the meetings of the preparatory committee will be preceded by three regional preparatory meetings, in line with paragraph 25 of resolution 76/217, each no longer than three days, for the Africa region, the Euro-Asia region and the Latin America region, to be supported by broad-based and inclusive country-level preparations;

44. *Emphasizes* the importance of country-level preparations as a critical input to the preparatory process for the Conference and in the implementation of and follow-up to its outcome, and calls upon the Governments of the landlocked developing countries to submit their reports in a timely manner;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, as appropriate, the full involvement of resident coordinators and country teams in the preparations for the Conference, in particular in the country-level and regional preparations;

46. *Stresses* that the Conference and the preparatory activities should be organized and carried out in the most effective and efficient manner possible;

47. *Encourages* the active participation of all States Members of the United Nations, in particular landlocked and transit developing countries and donor countries, as well as of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, in the Conference at the highest level possible;

48. *Calls upon* all stakeholders, while reviewing implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, to identify innovative solutions and initiatives that can be launched as key deliverables at the Conference;

49. *Invites* the Secretary-General to convene a high-level event of the United Nations system and other relevant international and regional organizations during the Conference, with a view to ensuring the full mobilization of the United Nations system in support of the landlocked developing countries;

50. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council to organize a half-day dedicated thematic event in the second half of 2023 in order to provide substantive input to the Conference;

51. *Stresses*, while recognizing the intergovernmental nature of the Conference, the importance of the effective, well-structured and broad participation of all relevant stakeholders, including parliamentarians, civil society and the private sector, in the Conference and its preparatory process, including national and regional reviews and thematic preparations, as well as in the interactive thematic round tables and side events during the Conference, underlines that intergovernmental mechanisms at the global and regional levels, including those of the United Nations regional commissions, as well as relevant substantive material and statistical data, should be effectively utilized in the review process, and decides:

(a) To invite non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to register with the Secretariat in order to participate in the Conference and its preparatory process;

(b) To invite other relevant stakeholders, including organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, civil society organizations, the private sector, other international bodies and other non-governmental organizations to participate as observers in the Conference and its preparatory process;

(c) To request the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may participate in the Conference and its preparatory process, taking into account the principles of transparency and of equitable geographical representation and with due regard for gender parity and to submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis and bring the list to the attention of the Assembly for a final decision by the Assembly on participation in the Conference;[674]

52. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative to act as the United Nations system-wide focal point for the preparations for the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, pursuant to resolution 76/217, and invites the Secretary-General to take the measures necessary to ensure effective, efficient and timely preparations for the Conference and to further mobilize and coordinate the active involvement of the organizations of the United Nations system;

53. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of the full and effective participation of the landlocked developing countries in the Conference and its preparatory process at the national, regional and global levels, stresses that adequate resources should be provided, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize voluntary contributions in order to support the cost of the participation of government representatives from the landlocked developing countries;

54. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat, in collaboration and avoiding overlap and duplication with the Office of the High Representative, to take the measures necessary to intensify their

[674] The list will include proposed as well as final names. The general basis of any objections, if requested by one or more States Members of the United Nations or States members of the specialized agencies, will be made known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly and the requester.

public information efforts and other appropriate initiatives to enhance public awareness of the Conference, including by highlighting its objectives and its significance;

55. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General for the Conference at the earliest possible date;

56. *Recognizes* the important role of the Group of Friends of Landlocked Developing Countries, and calls for their active participation and support in the preparation for the Conference and at the Conference itself;

57. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present proposals for consideration by the General Assembly at its current session with a view to ensuring that the Office of the High Representative has adequate capacity to support the Conference and its preparatory process and effectively implement the mandate for the subprogramme responsible for the landlocked developing countries;

58. *Strongly encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the trust fund in support of activities undertaken by the Office of the High Representative to support the implementation of, follow-up to and monitoring of the Vienna Programme of Action, as well as the preparations for the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries and the participation of landlocked developing countries in the Conference;

59. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a 10-year assessment report on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in preparation for the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Groups of countries in special situations", the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries".

V. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Third Committee

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RESOLUTION 77/188

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/455, para. 32)[1]

77/188. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, including resolution 76/134 of 16 December 2021,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and 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,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[2] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[3] as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

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 its deep concern that, more than 20 years after the convening of the World Summit for Social Development, progress has been slow and uneven, and major gaps remain,

Welcoming also the adoption, in its entirety, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[4] in which it is recognized 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 the proposal contained in the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Our Common Agenda" 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 and give momentum towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Noting also the Transforming Education Summit, convened and organized under the auspices of the Secretary-General, in New York on 19 September 2022,

Welcoming the convening in New York on 24 and 25 September 2019 of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the General Assembly, and its political declaration,[5] aiming to follow up and comprehensively review progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals,

Welcoming also the adoption of the political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage, held in New York on 23 September 2019, entitled "Universal health coverage: moving together to build a healthier world",[6]

Reaffirming the need to achieve sustainable development by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities within and among countries, raising

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Kazakhstan, and Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[2] *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.

[3] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[4] Resolution 70/1.

[5] Resolution 74/4, annex.

[6] Resolution 74/2.

basic standards of living and fostering equitable and inclusive social development and the sustainable management of natural resources,

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,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, and welcoming the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission, given its mandates and experience in promoting people-centred inclusive development, will report on social aspects related to the agreed main theme of the Council in order to contribute to its work,[7] including by offering inputs regarding the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda in a holistic and inclusive manner,

Welcoming the decision of the Economic and Social Council that the Commission for Social Development will consider one priority theme at each session on the basis of the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and its linkages to the social dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, proposing an action-oriented resolution with recommendations to the Council in order to contribute to its work, and that the priority theme for the 2023 session, which shall allow the Commission to contribute to the work of the Council, will be "Creating full and productive employment and decent work for all as a way of overcoming inequalities to accelerate the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Recalling the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the 2022 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2022 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, on the theme "Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",[8]

Reaffirming that the Declaration on the Right to Development[9] also informs the 2030 Agenda, along with other relevant instruments, such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[10] Agenda 2063 adopted by the African Union, and the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,[11] and reaffirming also 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,

Affirming its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into the reduction of inequalities, eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these strategies and policies should constitute fundamental components of relevant national and international policies and national development strategies, including inequality and poverty reduction strategies, reaffirming that employment creation and decent work for all should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed, and noting in this regard that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play in achieving the objective of social protection and elimination of inequalities, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,

Recognizing that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress and to leave no one behind,

Stressing the need to close all digital divides, which have been aggravated by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, both between and within countries and including rural-urban, youth-older persons and gender digital divides, and to promote digital inclusion, by taking into account national and regional contexts and addressing

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[7] Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/6, para. 3.

[8] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/77/3), chap. VI, sect. D.

[9] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[10] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[11] A/63/538-E/2009/4, annex.

the challenges associated with access, affordability, digital literacy and digital skills and awareness and by ensuring that the benefits of new technologies are available to all, taking into account the needs of those who are in vulnerable situations, and noting the efforts to help to bridge digital divides and expand access, including the Connect 2030 Agenda for Global Telecommunication/Information and Communication Technology, including Broadband, for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing that the remaining effects of the world financial and economic crisis have the potential to undermine progress towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in many countries, especially developing countries,

Deeply concerned that extreme poverty and the feminization of poverty persist in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that the extent and manifestations thereof, such as hunger and malnutrition, vulnerability to trafficking in persons, forced and child labour, disease, lack of adequate shelter and illiteracy, are heightened in developing countries and particularly severe in least developed countries, while acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty,

Stressing the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets,

Stressing also the importance of establishing a just and lasting peace all over the world in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, supporting all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States and respect their territorial integrity and political independence, and refraining in international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Welcoming the second edition of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development, held virtually in March 2021 under the theme "Shaping Africa's new normal: recovering stronger, rebuilding better", at which the need to prioritize institution-building in conflict-affected countries was emphasized, particularly in view of the socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Recognizing that terrorism, trafficking in arms, organized crime, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, politically motivated killing and genocide pose increasing challenges to States and societies in the attainment of conditions conducive to social development, including reduction of inequalities, and that they further present urgent and compelling reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity,

Recognizing also that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[12] the World Programme of Action for Youth,[13] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[14] the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[15] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[16]

Welcoming the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–2024), which urges Member States to promote the social development of people of African descent, particularly women and girls, by eradicating any form of discrimination, ensuring access to quality education and eliminating challenges and specific risks with regard to health,

Reaffirming the commitment to promoting the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social protection and social security, and noting the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

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[12] *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.

[13] Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[15] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[16] *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.

Reaffirming also the efforts of Governments to achieve all health-related Sustainable Development Goal targets, in particular Goal 3 of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all throughout the life course, by integrating those aims into their national plans and policies, as well as the significant progress made in increasing life expectancy, reducing maternal, newborn and child mortality and combating communicable diseases,

Recognizing that action to achieve universal health coverage by 2030 is inadequate and that the level of progress and investment to date is insufficient to meet target 3.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals, and that the world has yet to fulfil its promise of implementing, at all levels, measures to address the health needs of all,

Recalling the outcome of the World Health Assembly held in May 2019, the agreement to accelerate and scale up action to prevent and treat non-communicable diseases, the agreement on a common approach to antimicrobial resistance, the adoption of a new global strategy on health, the environment and climate change, and the adoption by the Assembly of the eleventh revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, which went into effect on 1 January 2022,

Reaffirming the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda, including to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all,

Noting with concern that, despite the progress achieved, at least half of the world's population lacks access to essential health services, more than 800 million people bear the burden of catastrophic spending of at least 10 per cent of their household income on health care and out-of-pocket expenses drive almost 100 million people into poverty each year,

Reaffirming education for sustainable development as a vital means of implementation for sustainable development, as outlined in the Aichi-Nagoya Declaration on Education for Sustainable Development,[17] and as an integral element of the Sustainable Development Goal on quality education and a key enabler of all the other Goals, and welcoming the increased international recognition of education for sustainable development in quality education and lifelong learning,

Acknowledging the importance for achieving sustainable development of delivering quality education to all girls and boys, which will require reaching children living in extreme poverty, children with disabilities, migrant and refugee children and those in conflict and post-conflict situations and providing safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all, and recognizing the importance of scaling up investments and international cooperation to allow all children to complete free, equitable, inclusive and quality early childhood, primary and secondary education, including through scaling up and strengthening initiatives, such as the Global Partnership for Education, and by upgrading education facilities that are child-, disability- and gender-sensitive and increasing the percentage of qualified teachers in developing countries, including through international cooperation, especially in the least developed countries and small island developing States,

Reiterating the contribution of education to eradicating poverty in all forms and dimensions by providing people with knowledge and skills, which increases productivity and income and helps in reducing inequality within countries,

Acknowledging the importance of adopting science, technology and innovation strategies as integral elements of national sustainable development strategies to help to strengthen knowledge-sharing and collaboration and the importance of scaling up investment in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education and enhancing technical, vocational and tertiary education, distance education and training and of ensuring equal access for all women and girls and encouraging their participation therein,

Welcoming the adoption of resolutions 74/270 of 2 April 2020 on global solidarity to fight the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), 74/274 of 20 April 2020 on international cooperation to ensure global access to medicines, vaccines and medical equipment to face COVID-19, 74/306 of 11 September 2020, entitled "Comprehensive and coordinated response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic", and 74/307 of 11 September 2020, entitled "United response against global health threats: combating COVID-19",

Concerned that the current COVID-19 crisis is likely to reverse decades of progress in social development, leaving more people behind and that it has also had 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

[17] A/70/228, annex.

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,

Deeply concerned that the COVID-19 pandemic, owing to its severe disruptions to societies, economies, employment, global trade, supply chains and travel, and agricultural, industrial and commercial systems, continues to have a devastating impact on sustainable development and humanitarian needs, including on poverty eradication, livelihoods, ending hunger, food security and nutrition, education, environmentally sound waste management and access to health care, especially for the poor and people in vulnerable situations and in countries in special situations and those countries most affected, has widened inequalities, including gender inequality, increased unemployment and the number of people who have left the labour force and continues to disproportionately impact people in vulnerable situations, including older persons, persons with pre-existing medical conditions, women and girls, children, youth, persons with disabilities, persons affected by conflict, migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, workers in the informal economy, people living in rural areas and other people in vulnerable situations, and is making the prospect of achieving all Sustainable Development Goals more difficult, including eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions by 2030, ending hunger and achieving food security and improved nutrition,

Noting with alarm that years, or even decades, of development progress have been halted or reversed, owing to the multiple and widespread impacts of COVID-19, conflicts and climate change, and particularly concerned by the rise in extreme poverty, hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity, water scarcity, inequalities, education disruptions, violence against women and children, unemployment, barriers to access financial resources and to develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, additional social and economic vulnerabilities affecting in particular those already in the most vulnerable situations, in addition to the increased challenges posed by climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification and pollution,

Noting with concern that unprecedented global school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic have severely affected the learning, development and well-being of children and youth worldwide and exacerbated pre-existing inequalities among and within countries and between and within educational systems in access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities, and that the impact of the pandemic on equal learning opportunities has been further exacerbated by the digital divide between those who had the means to continue education remotely and those who did not as well as by the rural-urban divide and the gender digital divide,

Stressing that the encouragement and development of international cooperation in the scientific and cultural fields serve the realization of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, bearing in mind that everyone has the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[18]

2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, in particular to promote equality and social justice, eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and decent work for all and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all, and recognizes that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals are mutually reinforcing;

3. *Reaffirms* its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 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 achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced, holistic and integrated manner;

4. *Recognizes* that poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon, and encourages Member States to develop comprehensive, integrated and coherent poverty eradication strategies that effectively address the structural causes of poverty and inequality with an emphasis on job-rich growth; address and meet the basic human needs of people living

[18] A/77/175.

in poverty; ensure their access to quality education, nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and other public social services, access to employment and decent work for all, as well as access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology and knowledge; and ensure their participation in decision-making on social and economic development policies and programmes in this regard;

5. *Expresses deep concern* that the global goal of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions by 2030 is slipping from our reach, and recognizes that the multidimensional impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated it, increasing the number of people living in poverty by up to 124 million, causing the extreme poverty rate to rise for the first time in a generation, especially in low- and middle-income countries, and, inter alia, among women and girls and persons with disabilities;

6. *Stresses* the importance of taking targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions everywhere, including extreme poverty, and achieve social development, so that no one is left behind, with enhanced international support and strengthened global partnerships, and notes the need for countries, the United Nations development system and all relevant stakeholders to ensure and promote a multidimensional coordinated approach in their work and efforts to eradicate poverty;

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

8. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,[19] the 2005 World Summit, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, in its Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[20] the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the third International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, have reinforced the priority and urgency of the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions within the United Nations development agenda;

9. *Recognizes* the complex character of the ongoing food insecurity situation, including food price volatility, as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, which is also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters, the lack of the necessary technology, and armed conflicts, and also recognizes that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security and to ensure that policies in the area of agriculture do not distort trade and worsen food insecurity;

10. *Also recognizes* that investing in the capacities of women and girls is important in reducing poverty, food insecurity, malnutrition and inequalities, as well as in achieving higher productivity and boosting social returns in terms of health, lower infant mortality and the well-being of their families;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance of supporting the African Union's development framework, Agenda 2063, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, which is the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities, and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development[21] and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

12. *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

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[19] *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.

[20] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[21] A/57/304, annex.

and programmes, including appropriate social transfer and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;

13. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, quality education for all and health care, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, noting the role of sports in this regard, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

14. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive and people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity and inclusion in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

15. *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 and to address the issues of illicit financial flows and corruption;

16. *Stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools to create favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries, that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels and the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development, the reduction of inequalities, the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition and for addressing the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, and in this regard also stresses the importance of economic, social and cultural rights and the importance of the principles of non-discrimination, inclusivity and meaningful participation for the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development;

17. *Acknowledges* that inequalities persist within and among countries, posing significant challenges to social cohesion, reaffirms that the eradication of poverty, the promotion of prosperity, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the reduction of inequality within and among countries are fundamental to achieving sustainable development for all, and that this requires collective and transformative efforts to leave no one behind and put the furthest behind first, and adapt institutions and policies to take into account the multidimensional nature of inequality and poverty and the inherent interlinkages between different Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda;

18. *Urges* Member States to strengthen social policies, as appropriate, paying particular attention to the specific needs of disadvantaged and marginalized social groups, inter alia, women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, refugees, internally displaced persons, migrants and other persons in vulnerable situations, as well as to address all forms of violence in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, and discrimination, including xenophobia, against them, to ensure that these groups are not left behind, and recognizes that violence increases the challenges faced by States and societies in the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social integration;

19. *Reaffirms* the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that they are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger and malnutrition, poverty and disease, to strengthening policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life as equal partners and to improving the access of women to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers and allocating adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of violence and discrimination against women, including in the workplace, inter alia, by addressing wage inequality, ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, reconciliation of work and private life for both men and women, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

20. *Recognizes* that youth participation is important for development, and urges Member States and United Nations entities, in consultation with youth and youth-led and youth-focused organizations, to explore and promote new avenues for the full, effective, structured and sustainable participation of young people and youth-led organizations in relevant decision-making processes and monitoring, in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, including in designing and implementing policies, programmes and initiatives, in particular while implementing the 2030 Agenda;

21. *Reaffirms* the right to food and acknowledges the importance of promoting sustainable farming and agriculture, and, recognizing the important contribution that family farming and smallholder farming can play in providing food security, reducing inequality in access to food and nutrition, calls upon Governments to ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round;

22. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to establish nationally appropriate social protection that supports labour market participation and addresses and reduces inequality and social exclusion, and social protection systems and floors, including through streamlining fragmented social protection systems/programmes, ensuring that such programmes are gender-responsive and disability-sensitive, and progressively extend their coverage to all people throughout their life cycle, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization, upon request, to support government efforts to strengthen social protection strategies and policies on extending social protection and social security coverage, urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, including the implementation of social protection floors, which can provide a systemic base upon which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of the International Labour Organization recommendation on social protection floors;

23. *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 in accordance with International Labour Organization recommendation No. 204 concerning the transition from the informal to the formal economy, and enhancing the productive capacities of people, and strengthen labour institutions and employment and labour-market policies, taking into consideration the specific circumstances of each country and by promoting close partnerships with relevant stakeholders;

24. *Urges* Member States to strengthen, as appropriate, the authority and capacity of national mechanisms for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, at all levels, which should be placed at the highest possible level of government, with sufficient funding, and to mainstream a gender perspective across all relevant national and local institutions, including labour, economic and financial government agencies, in order to ensure that national planning, decision-making, policy formulation and implementation, budgeting processes and institutional structures contribute to women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work;

25. *Also urges* Member States to address the high rates of youth unemployment, underemployment, vulnerable employment, informal employment and young people not in employment, education or training by developing and implementing targeted and integrated local and national youth employment policies for inclusive, sustainable and innovative job creation, improved employability, skills development and vocational training to facilitate the transition from school to work and to increase the prospects for integrating youth into the sustainable labour market, and through increased entrepreneurship, including the development of networks of young entrepreneurs at the local, national, regional and global levels that foster knowledge among young people about their rights and responsibilities in society, and encourages Member States to invest in education, support lifelong learning and provide social protection for all youth and to request donors, specialized United Nations entities and the private sector to continue to provide assistance to Member States, including technical and funding support, as appropriate;

26. *Recognizes* that promoting full employment and decent work for all also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying international labour standards, and urges States and, as appropriate, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, as well as civil society, the private sector, employer organizations, trade unions, the media and other relevant actors, to continue to develop and strengthen policies, strategies and programmes to enhance, in particular, the employability of women and youth and to ensure their access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, including by improving access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, lifelong learning and retraining

and long-distance education, inter alia, in information and communications technology and entrepreneurial skills, particularly in developing countries, including with a view to supporting the economic empowerment of women in the different stages of their lives;

27. *Reaffirms* the New Urban Agenda,[22] which envisages cities and human settlements that fulfil their social function, including the social and ecological function of land, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to adequate housing, as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, without discrimination, universal access to safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation, as well as equal access for all to public goods and quality services in areas such as food security and nutrition, health, education, infrastructure, mobility and transportation, energy, air quality and livelihoods;

28. *Recognizes* that the negative effects of climate change and environmental disasters have differential impacts, with people in vulnerable situations, poor and rural communities and low-income countries being disproportionately exposed to floods, droughts and other natural disasters, and that they have a lower capacity and assets to recover from such external shocks, and expresses concern that climate change may cause high and volatile food and commodity prices and hit them hardest;

29. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of effectively enforcing labour laws with regard to labour relations and working conditions of migrant workers, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

30. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations, the public sector and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors within countries are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals, and acknowledges the role of the public and private sectors as employers and enablers for the effective generation of new investments, full and productive employment and decent work for all, including through partnerships with the United Nations system, civil society and academia;

31. *Stresses* the importance of the policy space and leadership of national Governments for implementing policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, in particular in the areas of human rights, social expenditure and social protection programmes, and calls upon international financial institutions and donors to support developing countries in achieving their social development, in line with their national priorities and strategies, by, among other things, providing debt relief within the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

32. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, emphasizes that transnational corporations and other business enterprises have a responsibility to respect human rights, applicable laws and international principles and standards, to operate transparently, in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, and to refrain from affecting the well-being of peoples, and also emphasizes the need to take further concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption, and to prevent human rights abuses;

33. *Reaffirms* the necessity of improving availability, affordability and efficiency of health products by increasing transparency of prices of medicines, vaccines, medical devices, diagnostics, assistive products, cell- and gene-based therapies and other health technologies across the value chain, including through improved regulations and building constructive engagement and a stronger partnership with relevant stakeholders, including industries, the private sector and civil society, in accordance with national and regional legal frameworks and contexts, to address the global concern about the high prices of some health products, and in this regard encourages the World Health

[22] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Organization to continue its efforts to biennially convene the Fair Pricing Forum with Member States and all relevant stakeholders to discuss the affordability and transparency of prices and costs relating to health products;

34. *Recognizes* that health is an investment in human capital and social and economic development, towards the full realization of human potential, and significantly contributes to the promotion and protection of human rights and dignity as well as the empowerment of all people;

35. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment in the political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage to achieve universal health coverage, which implies that all people have access, without discrimination, to nationally determined sets of the needed promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative essential health services, and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines and vaccines, while ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the users to financial hardship, with a special emphasis on those who are marginalized;

36. *Reaffirms* that achieving universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all, is essential to eradicate poverty, and reduce inequality and achieve sustainable development for all;

37. *Acknowledges* that expanding health care is a challenge, as well as the rising cost of medications and health products is threatening the sustainability of health systems in many countries, and stresses the responsibility of States to ensure access for all, without discrimination of any kind, to medicines, in particular essential medicines, that are affordable, safe, effective and of quality;

38. *Expresses concern* at the global shortfall of 18 million health workers, primarily in low- and middle income countries, recognizes the need to train, build and retain a skilled health workforce, including nurses, midwives and community health workers, who are an important element of strong and resilient health systems, and also recognizes that increased investment in a more effective and socially accountable health workforce can unleash significant socioeconomic gains and contribute to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, the empowerment of all women and girls and the reduction of inequality;

39. *Calls upon* States, at the international level, to take steps, individually and/or through international cooperation, in accordance with applicable international law, including international agreements, to ensure that their actions as members of international organizations take into due account the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and that the application of international agreements is supportive of public health policies that promote broad access to safe, effective and affordable medicines;

40. *Encourages* all States to apply measures and procedures for enforcing intellectual property rights in such a manner as to avoid creating barriers to the legitimate trade in medicines, and to provide for safeguards against the abuse of such measures and procedures;

41. *Calls upon* Member States to make greater investments and promote decent work in the health and social sectors, enable safe working environments and conditions, effective retention and equitable and broad distribution of the health workforce, and strengthen capacities to optimize the existing health workforce, including through expanding rural and community-based health education and training to contribute to the achievement of universal health coverage;

42. *Encourages* Governments to end all forms of malnutrition, including the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons;

43. *Welcomes* the rapid expansion in school enrolment worldwide, with literacy rates rising steadily over the past 50 years to reach 68 per cent in 2016, and the improvement in the access to early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary and distance education and throughout the life course, and calls upon the international community to provide inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels so that all people may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities to participate fully in society;

44. *Calls for* mitigating the effects of school closures and cuts in national education budgets, including on learning, child nutrition and all forms of violence, by, inter alia, safely reopening schools, providing safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all, taking all possible actions to ensure qualified teachers and

learners' re-enrolment and re-engagement, learning recovery and well-being through a non-discriminatory, accessible, integrated, multisectoral, child-sensitive and gender-responsive approach, and encourages the scaling-up of efforts for remedial, accelerated learning and catch-up strategies to mitigate learning losses, equipping children and adolescents with foundational skills, such as literacy and numeracy, and taking actions to ensure quality education and learning programmes beyond the schools for out-of-school children and youth and illiterate adults, particularly for the poorest and those in vulnerable situations;

45. *Recognizes* the limited access to and high rates of dropout from school and secondary education, the increased rates of exclusion from education with age and the existence of large disparities in school attendance and learning acquisition by region, wealth, sex, urban or rural residence and other factors such as Indigenous identity or disability, underscoring the challenges ahead, and also recognizes that poverty may affect access to quality education at the secondary and tertiary levels;

46. *Also recognizes* that factors such as poverty, residing in a rural area or having a disability all too often prevent children and adolescents from accessing quality education, especially at the secondary and tertiary levels;

47. *Encourages* all States to measure progress in the realization of the right to education, such as by developing national indicators as an important tool for the realization of the right to education and for policy formulation, impact assessment and transparency;

48. *Encourages* States to increase investments and international cooperation to allow all girls and boys to complete free, equitable, inclusive and quality early childhood, primary and secondary education, including by scaling up and strengthening initiatives, such as the Global Partnership for Education, and to explore additional innovative mechanisms based on models combining public and private resources, while ensuring that all education providers give due respect to the right to education;

49. *Urges* States to support the efforts of developing countries, in particular least developed countries, to realize progressively the right to education, including the progressive realization of the equal enjoyment of the right to education by every girl through appropriate resources, including financial and technical resources, in support of country-led national education plans;

50. *Reaffirms* the right to education, and calls upon the international community to provide universal access to inclusive, equal and non-discriminatory quality education at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary and distance education, including technical and vocational training – as well as to promote the completion of primary and secondary education so that all people may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities to participate fully in society and contribute to sustainable development;

51. *Recognizes* that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of education and vocational training and in order to enable millions of people to acquire skills for decent work, and takes note with appreciation of the report of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity and the recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

52. *Urges* Member States to promote and respect women's right to education throughout the life course at all levels, especially for those who have been left furthest behind, and eliminate gender disparities in access to all areas of secondary and tertiary education, promote financial literacy and inclusion, digital literacy and entrepreneurship, ensure that women and girls have equal access to career development, training, scholarships and fellowships and adopt positive action to build women's and girls' leadership skills and influence, and adopt measures that promote, respect and guarantee the safety of women and girls in the school environment and that support women and girls with disabilities at all levels of education and training;

53. *Underlines* that the pandemic has accelerated the pace of digital transformation and accentuated its central role in recovering better and achieving the 2030 Agenda, and in this regard encourages Member States to promote multi-stakeholder partnerships, including with science, technology and innovation communities, academia, civil society, the private sector and intergovernmental institutions, including the United Nations, to close the digital divides, achieve universal Internet connectivity and promote responsible and inclusive Internet governance;

54. *Invites* the United Nations system to continue to support Member States in their pursuit of socially just transitions towards sustainable development and facilitate international cooperation in the field of digital technologies for developing countries, upon their request, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for the common future of

present and coming generations, and close the digital divides which are exacerbating existing inequalities globally, especially during and after the pandemic, and stresses the commitment of Member States to reinvigorating and strengthening multilateralism to collectively address global challenges and to support countries in need in their efforts to enable an inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery, including through mobilizing all means to strengthen their education, health-care and social protection systems and mitigate and adapt to the negative effects of climate change;

55. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed and middle-income countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

56. *Underlines* that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, recognizes its increased importance, different history and particularities, and stresses that it should be seen as an expression of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South, based on their shared experiences and objectives, and that it should continue to be guided by the principles of respect for national sovereignty, national ownership and independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference in domestic affairs and mutual benefit;

57. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and the most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources, and that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance, is to catalyse the mobilization of additional resources from other public and private sources, and notes that official development assistance providers have reaffirmed their respective 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 0.2 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries;

58. *Welcomes* the increase in the volume of official development assistance since the adoption of the Monterrey Consensus, expresses its concern that many countries still fall short of their official development assistance commitments, reiterates that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, commends 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, urges all other countries to step up efforts to increase their official development assistance and to make additional concrete efforts towards the official development assistance targets, welcomes the decision by the European Union reaffirming its collective commitment to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda and undertaking to meet collectively the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries in the short term and to reach 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda, and encourages official development assistance providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries;

59. *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;

60. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further access to drugs at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitment for Vaccines;

61. *Emphasizes* that a coordinated global response is critical to assisting countries in preserving or increasing social protection systems when facing the COVID-19 pandemic and as they recover from it, including by strengthening international solidarity, multilateralism, international cooperation and global partnerships among all stakeholders, in order to recover better to achieve the objectives of the World Summit and the 2030 Agenda, while leaving no one behind, with an endeavour to reach the furthest behind first;

62. *Encourages* Governments to support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all;

63. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

64. *Reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, including their importance in safeguarding and increasing social spending to fully implement the 2030 Agenda, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

65. *Stresses* that the international community should support national commitments to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions with the goal to ensure that no one is left behind, and recognizes the need for greater international cooperation to further reduce inequality between and within countries and increase capacity-building support to countries with the most constrained resources to ensure that social expenditures meet certain targets;

66. *Reconfirms* 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;

67. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, in promoting the integrated treatment of social development issues in the United Nations system, shall review, on a periodic basis, issues related to the follow-up to and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, in a manner consistent with the functions and contributions of the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and shall advise the Council thereon;

68. *Also reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

69. *Further reaffirms* the mandate of the Commission for Social Development and that social development is a cross-cutting element in discussions surrounding the 2030 Agenda, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, civil society and relevant stakeholders to enhance their support for the high-level political forum on sustainable development as it builds upon the work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, including the Commission, while reflecting the integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals as well as the interlinkages between them;

70. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies to continue to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development in a coherent and coordinated manner, to mainstream the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all into their policies, programmes and activities, as well as to support efforts of Member States aimed at achieving this objective, and invites financial institutions to support efforts in this regard;

71. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social

Development,[23] to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

72. *Calls upon* the Commission for Social Development to continue to address inequality in all its dimensions, in the context of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and invites the Commission to emphasize the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned;

73. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue engaging with Member States to sustain and further strengthen the political momentum on health-related issues, including the realization of universal health coverage and, in close collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, including regional organizations, to strengthen existing initiatives that are led and coordinated by the World Health Organization to provide assistance to Member States, upon their request, towards the achievement of universal health coverage and all health-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals;

74. *Calls upon* the international community to provide inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels throughout the life course – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary and distance education, including technical and vocational training – so that all people, particularly those in vulnerable situations, may have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to exploit opportunities to participate fully in society and contribute to sustainable development;

75. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Social development", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", with a particular focus on how to address the rise of extreme poverty rates, food insecurity, lack of access to quality education and to energy, and unemployment around the world, which are among the current challenges to social development, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the General Assembly at that session.

RESOLUTION 77/189

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/455, para. 32)[24]

77/189. Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 75/154 of 16 December 2020 and its previous relevant resolutions, including those on all relevant internationally agreed development goals, as well as relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council and of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, and stressing the need for their full application and implementation for and with persons with disabilities, in order to ensure development for and with persons with disabilities,

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[23] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 6* (E/2005/26), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234.

[24] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Reaffirming the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[25] which it adopted on 13 December 2006 and which entered into force on 3 May 2008, a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, recognizing that it is both a human rights and a development instrument, encouraging its ratification by Member States and its implementation by States parties, and taking note of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[26]

Reaffirming also the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[27] which is inclusive of persons with disabilities and in which Member States pledged to leave no one behind, and acknowledging that Member States, while implementing the 2030 Agenda, should, inter alia, respect, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination of any kind,

Recalling all development and operational frameworks in which persons with disabilities are recognized as both development agents and beneficiaries in all aspects of development,

Recalling also the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[28] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[29] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,[30] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[31] the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,[32] the Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action, launched during the first World Humanitarian Summit, the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III),[33] the political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage, entitled "Universal health coverage: moving together to build a healthier world",[34] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[35] and the Beijing Platform for Action,[36] the outcome document of the 2016 high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly on HIV and AIDS, entitled "Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030",[37] and the adoption of the 2021 political declaration on HIV and AIDS, entitled "Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Ending Inequalities and Getting on Track to End AIDS by 2030",[38] which contain references to the rights, participation, perspectives and well-being of persons with disabilities in development efforts,

Recalling further the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[39] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[40] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[41] the International Convention on the

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[25] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[26] Ibid., vol. 2518, No. 44910.

[27] Resolution 70/1.

[28] *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.

[29] Resolution 66/288, annex.

30 Resolution 69/283, annex II.

[31] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[32] Resolution 69/2.

[33] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[34] Resolution 74/2.

[35] *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.

[36] *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, annex II.

[37] Resolution 70/266, annex.

[38] Resolution 75/284, annex.

[39] Resolution 217 A (III).

[40] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[41] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[42] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[43] and all other relevant international human rights instruments,

Recalling the outcome document of its high-level meeting on the overarching theme "The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond", held on 23 September 2013 at the level of Heads of State and Government,[44]

Reaffirming the follow-up and review of progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the inclusion of persons with disabilities as stakeholders in its work, as set out in resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 and 75/290 B of 25 June 2021,

Noting the panel discussion organized by the President of the General Assembly held on 13 June 2016 to follow up on the status of and progress made towards the realization of the development goals for persons with disabilities in relation to the follow-up to the outcome of the high-level meeting on disability and development and to the principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

Taking note with appreciation that the 2018 *Disability and Development Report* presents an overview of the status of accessibility for persons with disabilities, and the persistent gaps in this regard, and identifies good practices and recommended actions in accessibility for the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the disability-inclusive achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Recognizing that persons with disabilities make up an estimated 15 per cent of the world's population, or 1 billion people, of whom an estimated 80 per cent live in developing countries, and that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by poverty,

Welcoming progress towards mainstreaming disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, in the work of the United Nations, and noting with appreciation the contributions of the Steering Committee on Accessibility and of the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as the progress made in the implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy and the leadership of the Secretary-General to bring about transformative and systematic change on disability inclusion across the United Nations system,

Gravely concerned that persons with disabilities, including women, children, youth, persons with albinism, Indigenous Peoples and older persons, continue to be subject to multiple, aggravated and intersecting forms of discrimination, and noting that, while progress has already been made by Governments, the international community and the United Nations system in mainstreaming disability, in particular the rights of persons with disabilities, as an integral part of the development agenda, major challenges remain,

Concerned that women and girls with disabilities are often among the most vulnerable and marginalized in society and are at a greater risk of experiencing all forms of violence, and recognizing the need for national development strategies and efforts to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls with disabilities, the elimination of all forms of violence and the realization of their human rights,

Recognizing that persons with disabilities are often disproportionately affected in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters and in their aftermath, and that they may require specific protection and safety measures, recognizing also the need to support further participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the development of such measures and decision-making processes relating thereto, in order to ensure disability-inclusive risk reduction and humanitarian action, and recognizing further the special coping mechanisms developed by persons with disabilities to withstand, respond to and overcome the effects of armed conflict and natural disasters,

Recognizing also that children with disabilities may be particularly exposed to online risks, including cyberbullying, and that there is a need to take steps to ensure that the digital environment, including safety information, protective strategies, services and forums relating to it, is accessible, inclusive and safe,

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[42] Ibid. vol. 660, No. 9464.

[43] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[44] Resolution 68/3.

Recognizing further the contribution of families towards ensuring the full enjoyment by persons with disabilities of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with others, and that persons with disabilities and their families should receive social protection and assistance to enable the family and its members to contribute towards the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights by persons with disabilities and to ensure a safe and supportive family environment for persons with disabilities,

Recognizing the collective responsibility of Governments to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality, non-discrimination and equity at the global level, and in this sense stressing the duty of Member States to achieve the full application and implementation of the international normative framework on persons with disabilities and human rights and development,

Concerned that access to health-care services and assistive devices and technologies remains a challenge for persons with disabilities, who are more than three times as likely as persons without disabilities to be unable to obtain health care when they need it, especially women and girls with disabilities, owing to, inter alia, a lack of financial resources, inaccessible public transport and facilities and attitudinal and other environmental barriers,

Recognizing that persons with disabilities are directly and indirectly disproportionally impacted by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which has exacerbated existing inequalities, discrimination, stigmatization, violence and exclusion and increased the risk of unemployment and poverty, as well as of violence and abuse, in particular against women and girls with disabilities, recognizing also that persons with disabilities may continue to experience the same conditions and challenges, including in the response, recovery and rebuilding phase, as well as face barriers and discrimination in accessing protection measures, appropriately designed personal protective equipment, medicines, vaccines, medical equipment, employment, education, public health information and health-care services, and recognizing further that persons with disabilities may have higher rates of underlying risk factors, and have a greater risk of contracting COVID-19 disease, developing severe health conditions or being fatally affected by it,

Reaffirming the right of every human being, without distinction of any kind, to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health,

Recognizing the importance of addressing the specific needs, challenges and barriers of migrants with disabilities, including migrant workers with disabilities and those whose disabilities may have been acquired during migration, in gaining access to essential services at all stages of the migration cycle, and recognizing also that particular assistance and protection may be needed by migrants with disabilities,

Taking note of the initiatives that the Secretary-General, United Nations agencies and United Nations entities have undertaken in order to promote disability inclusion in COVID-19 response and recovery efforts as a vital step towards achieving the pledge to leave no one behind, and noting in this regard the importance of promoting equal access of persons with disabilities to social services, quality education and health care, full and productive employment and decent work, encouraging their effective and meaningful participation, protecting their human rights, eliminating discrimination against them, and systematically collecting and using data disaggregated by sex, age and disability,

Recognizing that eliminating discrimination, ensuring equal access to social protection floors and safety nets, addressing additional disability-related costs in the design of social protection schemes, and enhancing responsive support and services to persons with disabilities are critical to promoting inclusive development for all,

Recognizing also that, while considerable progress has been made, the mainstreaming of disabilities, including the rights of persons with disabilities, remains a global challenge, and recognizing that further efforts are needed to strengthen the normative and operational links to effectively integrate the rights, inclusion, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities into development policies and programmes, and, in particular, into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Noting the need for Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to further strengthen the normative framework on disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, in line with the pledge of "leaving no one behind" of the 2030 Agenda, and to mainstream disability as an integral part of relevant strategies of sustainable development and consider disability as a global issue, cutting across the pillars of the United Nations,

Stressing its resolve to build inclusive societies and, in this regard, the importance of mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives, needs and well-being of persons with disabilities into all relevant strategies and

programmes for sustainable development, and reaffirming the valued existing and potential contributions made by persons with disabilities to the overall well-being and diversity of their communities,

Recognizing the rights of persons with disabilities with respect to full, meaningful and effective participation and inclusion in society, and therefore recognizing also that persons with disabilities should have the opportunity to be actively involved in all aspects of public, political, economic, cultural, social and family life, on an equal basis with all others, including in decision-making processes about policies and programmes, including national and international development programmes, with a view to ensuring that such policies and programmes are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities,

Recognizing also the role and contribution of persons with disabilities in sustainable and inclusive economic growth, including through micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and the importance of skills development training on micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including for persons with disabilities,

Underlining the need for urgent action by all stakeholders towards the adoption and implementation of more ambitious disability-inclusive national development plans, strategies and actions, backed by increased international cooperation and support,

Stressing the need for capacity-development efforts aimed at empowering persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to ensure equal access to inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities, full and productive employment and decent work on an equal basis and without discrimination to persons with disabilities, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development, including digital literacy, volunteering opportunities and vocational and entrepreneurial training in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence and reach their full potential,

Recognizing the importance of promoting accessibility, mobility and road safety for persons with disabilities in the context of cities and other human settlements, and that accessibility is a means of achieving inclusive societies and development,

Recognizing also the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace, and stressing that major international sporting events, such as the international Paralympic Games, should be organized in the spirit of peace, mutual understanding, friendship and tolerance, where persons with disabilities have an opportunity to organize, develop and participate in disability-specific sporting and recreational activities, on an equal basis with others, and where the spirit of fair play prevails, violence is banned and ethical principles are upheld,

Concerned that the continuing lack of available, accessible, high-quality, timely and reliable statistics, data and information on the situation of persons with disabilities at the national, regional and global levels contributes to their exclusion in official statistics, presenting an obstacle to achieving sustainable development planning and implementation of policies and programmes that are inclusive of persons with disabilities, recognizing that high-quality, timely, accessible, reliable and disaggregated data are critical to measuring progress and ensuring that no one is left behind, and further noting the need for enhancing capacity-building support to developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of such data, including through information and communications technologies and systems,

Stressing the importance of collecting and analysing reliable data on persons with disabilities following existing guidelines on disability statistics,[45] and their updates, encouraging ongoing efforts to improve data collection in order to disaggregate data with regard to persons with disabilities by sex, age and disability, and underlining the need for internationally comparable data, such as but not limited to the United Nations Children's Fund Module on Child Functioning and the tools and materials produced by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, to assess progress on development policies that are inclusive of persons with disabilities,

Concerned that the lack of high-quality data required to provide viable baselines and measure progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals for persons with disabilities poses a significant challenge to effectively monitor the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for persons with disabilities, and in this regard welcoming the call for the disaggregation of data by disability in the 2030 Agenda, which recognizes the need to significantly increase the

[45] Such as the *Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XVII.15) and the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XVII.8).

availability of high-quality, accessible, timely and reliable data to measure progress in the implementation of the Goals for persons with disabilities,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General, entitled "Inclusive development for and with persons with disabilities", on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 75/154 and 68/3 of 23 September 2013;[46]

2. *Expresses appreciation* to Member States and United Nations entities that have submitted information on progress made towards the realization of the internationally agreed development goals, including on specific priorities for action, and data and analysis on persons with disabilities, and urges Member States and relevant United Nations entities to submit information for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

3. *Recalls* Human Rights Council resolution 26/20 of 27 June 2014,[47] in which the Council established the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, which included making concrete recommendations on how to better promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities, how to promote development that is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities and how to promote their roles as both agents for and beneficiaries of development;

4. *Welcomes* the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizes that their participation is integral to the full and inclusive implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

5. *Expresses appreciation* to Member States and United Nations entities that have drafted strategies outlining their way forward in implementing and monitoring the implementation of the 2030 Agenda or are in the process of doing so, and encourages States, with the support of relevant stakeholders, to encourage the participation of persons with disabilities in the design and implementation of these strategies and ensure that the strategies are inclusive of persons with disabilities and respect, protect and promote their rights, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

6. *Urges* Member States, United Nations agencies, international and regional organizations, regional integration organizations and financial institutions to make a concerted effort to include persons with disabilities and to integrate the principles of non-discrimination, accessibility and inclusion into the monitoring and evaluation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

7. *Urges* Member States, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, in cooperation with women and girls with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, to design and implement policies and programmes to fulfil the rights of women and girls with disabilities, and to ensure that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is inclusive of and accessible to women and girls with disabilities;

8. *Also urges* Member States, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders, in cooperation with persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, to design and implement policies and programmes to fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities, including through developing, reviewing and strengthening inclusive policies to address the historical, structural and underlying causes and risk factors of violence against persons with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities, and to ensure that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

9. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure the full enjoyment by children with disabilities of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with other children, with the best interests of the child as a primary consideration in all actions concerning children with disabilities;

10. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to foster cooperation and to further improve coordination among existing international processes and instruments in order to advance a disability-inclusive global agenda and to facilitate cross-learning and the sharing of information, practices, tools and resources that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

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[46] A/77/166.

[47] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

11. *Reaffirms* that social integration and economic policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education, lifelong learning opportunities for all and health-care services, including for mental health and psychosocial well-being, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation, and integration and inclusion of social groups, particularly persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market-driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

12. *Affirms* that persons with disabilities, including children, have the right to education, and urges Member States to ensure full access to inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities, including distance learning, for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others and without discrimination, by taking appropriate steps through the provision of information in accessible and alternative communication formats, reasonable accommodation and other support, such as assistive devices and technologies, as required;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities into disaster risk reduction and response, recognizing the need for their inclusion in and contribution to disaster preparedness, emergency response, recovery, rehabilitation, reconstruction and the transition from relief to development, as well as the implementation of policies and programmes that are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities, and also recognizing the disproportionate impact of disasters on women and girls with disabilities;

14. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders to support the empowerment, full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of persons with disabilities in the planning, consultation and decision-making processes on disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and other climate change policies and programmes, and recognizing the heightened risks and disproportionate impact faced by persons with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities, in the context of climate change, environmental degradation, pollution and other environmental damage;

15. *Also encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to strengthen ongoing efforts and coordination in the humanitarian, disaster and development spheres, in close consultation with persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, towards disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction and humanitarian action so as to strengthen resilience, better mitigate risks and support pathways towards recovery and development, including during humanitarian emergencies, for persons with disabilities, and to establish partnerships and networks in the disaster risk reduction and humanitarian domains;

16. *Urges* Member States to ensure that persons with disabilities and their families, including women and girls, have access to a range of support services, information in accessible formats and education, including on how to prevent, recognize and report instances of exploitation, violence and abuse, as well as how to ensure that persons with disabilities, in particular children, have a safe and supportive family environment;

17. *Also urges* Member States to ensure affordable and accessible Internet for persons with disabilities, and to include them and their representative organizations at every stage of development of information and communications technologies, including with regard to telehealth, distance learning and remote work;

18. *Encourages* the mobilization of resources on a sustainable basis to mainstream disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, into development at all levels, and in this regard underlines the need to promote and strengthen international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in support of national efforts, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of national mechanisms, in particular in developing countries;

19. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations organizations and mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of persons with disabilities, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility and the regional commissions, to make all efforts to engage with and ensure accessibility for the full and effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities, in cooperation with organizations of persons with disabilities and, as appropriate, national human rights institutions, in development processes and decision-making at the local, national, regional and international levels;

20. *Encourages* the Commission for Social Development, within its mandate, to continue to provide its relevant input regarding persons with disabilities to the Economic and Social Council and to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, as appropriate, in order to support the relevant discussions on persons with disabilities in the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda;

21. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to adopt a national disability strategy that can be operationalized, including through measurable and appropriate targets and indicators, and that assigns responsibility to and incorporates the views of a broad range of stakeholders, including persons with disabilities and their representative organizations;

22. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to take into account the rights, participation, inclusion, perspectives and needs of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others in ensuring that all development policies and programmes, including those regarding poverty eradication, discrimination and the elimination of all forms of violence and abuse, particularly against women and girls with disabilities, social protection, inclusive and equitable quality education and basic services, full and productive employment and decent work, and appropriate measures for financial inclusion, as well as urban and rural planning and accessible community and housing development, including the objectives and principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the goals of the 2030 Agenda, are translated into concrete actions;

23. *Encourages* Member States, international development institutions and other stakeholders, including those in the private sector, to promote accessibility, including through the application of universal design in all aspects of urban and rural development, including the planning, design and construction of physical and virtual environments, public spaces, transportation and public services, as well as to promote access to and the accessibility of information and communication, including information and communications technologies and systems, and assistive devices and technologies, and to ensure that accessibility is promoted to achieve inclusive societies and development;

24. *Encourages* Member States to eliminate barriers faced by persons with disabilities in accessing water, sanitation and hygiene, including physical, institutional, social and attitudinal barriers, and recognizing that assistive technologies help in making water, sanitation and hygiene accessible;

25. *Calls upon* Member States and other stakeholders to include persons with disabilities in all stages of policymaking and decision-making related to COVID-19 response and recovery and future and public health emergencies, as well to eliminate barriers and discrimination against persons with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities, and those in vulnerable situations, in accessing support and health-care services on an equal basis with others, and to prevent, monitor and address the disproportionate effects of the pandemic on persons with disabilities, including the lack of accessible communications, support and services, as well as the unique challenges and barriers that they will face following the end of the pandemic;

26. *Urges* Member States to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to rehabilitation and other independent living support services and assistive technologies to enable them to maximize their well-being and realize their independence and full participation in society, and in this regard encourages Member States to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in designing and implementing independent living support services for persons with disabilities;

27. *Urges* Member States and regional and local governments to promote appropriate measures in cities and other human settlements that facilitate the access of persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment of cities, in particular to public spaces, public transport, housing, workplaces, water and sanitation, education and health facilities, public information and communication (including information and communications technologies and systems) and other facilities and services open or provided to the public in both rural and urban areas to reduce the inequalities and expedite inclusive and sustainable development for persons with disabilities;

28. *Urges* Member States, at the local, regional and national levels, to improve road safety for persons with disabilities and to integrate road safety into sustainable mobility and transport infrastructure planning and design in cities and other human settlements;

29. *Stresses* the importance of enabling persons with disabilities to participate on an equal basis with others in recreational, leisure and sporting activities and of promoting sports for athletes with disabilities, without discrimination of any kind;

30. *Welcomes* the contributions made to the trust fund for the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and in this regard encourages Member States and other stakeholders to support its objectives, including by providing voluntary contributions;

31. *Requests* the United Nations system to facilitate technical assistance, within existing resources, including the provision of assistance for capacity-building and for the collection and compilation of national data and statistics on persons with disabilities, in particular to developing countries, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in accordance with existing international guidelines on disability statistics, to analyse, publish and disseminate disability data and statistics in future periodic reports, as appropriate, on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities;

32. *Encourages* the Statistical Commission, within existing resources, to update guidelines for the collection and analysis of data on persons with disabilities, taking into consideration relevant recommendations of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, and also encourages the United Nations system, including the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, within the scope of his mandate, to strengthen coherence and coordination across the United Nations system in order to promote the availability of internationally comparable data on the situation of persons with disabilities and to regularly include relevant data on disability or relevant qualitative facts, as appropriate, in relevant United Nations publications in the field of economic and social development;

33. *Encourages* Member States to take appropriate steps to expedite the mainstreaming of data on disability into official statistics, including by collecting data disaggregated by sex, age and disability status using appropriate measurement tools, including, as appropriate, the United Nations Children's Fund Module on Child Functioning and the tools produced by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, by examining underlying concepts, purposes and advantages of existing relevant data-collection tools and instruments and urging all relevant stakeholders to work with the United Nations to provide urgently needed baseline data for monitoring progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals for persons with disabilities, to strengthen national capacities in that regard and to enhance capacity-building support for developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States;

34. *Recognizes* the importance of undertaking discussions relevant to persons with disabilities in the Commission for Social Development and of the continued inclusion of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in the meetings of the Commission;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a progress report on steps taken by the United Nations system towards mainstreaming disability inclusion, including implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, within existing resources, and encourages the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of disability inclusion, including by implementing the Strategy in the United Nations system, and report on it;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in coordination with all relevant United Nations entities, to submit information to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution and of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the 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,[48] and to make appropriate recommendations to further strengthen implementation, and to include in the report relevant information on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on persons with disabilities, the measures to mitigate the impact, as well as their participation in efforts to respond to and recover from the pandemic;

37. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing to improve accessibility and the full inclusion of persons with disabilities, including by ensuring that persons with disabilities have access, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment, transportation, and information and communications technologies and systems, especially at United Nations Headquarters premises, also recognizes the need to promote employment opportunities and career advancement for persons with disabilities to work within the United Nations system, agencies, funds and programmes and regional offices, and to this end takes note with appreciation the work of the Steering Committee on Accessibility;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the relevant offices in the United Nations system, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and other relevant offices, have adequate human and financial resources for the fulfilment of their tasks with respect to their work in mainstreaming the rights, participation, perspectives, needs and

[48] Resolution 68/3.

well-being of persons with disabilities into the 2030 Agenda, and in ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the decision-making processes that impact them.

RESOLUTION 77/190

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/455, para. 32)[49]

77/190. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[50] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007, 63/151 of 18 December 2008, 64/132 of 18 December 2009, 65/182 of 21 December 2010, 66/127 of 19 December 2011, 67/139 and 67/143 of 20 December 2012, 68/134 of 18 December 2013, 69/146 of 18 December 2014, 70/164 of 17 December 2015, 71/164 of 19 December 2016, 72/144 of 19 December 2017, 73/143 of 17 December 2018, 74/125 of 18 December 2019, 75/152 of 16 December 2020 and 76/138 of 16 December 2021,

Recognizing that there has been a steady upward trend in the participation of Member States in the third review and appraisal cycle of implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, although, in some parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[51]

Taking note also of other initiatives that the Secretary-General, United Nations agencies and United Nations entities have undertaken in order to promote coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response and recovery efforts as a vital step towards achieving the pledge to leave no one behind, in particular those regarding the impact of COVID-19 on older persons, and noting in this regard the importance of promoting equal access of older persons to social services, health-care services, information and communications technologies, including new technologies, assistive technologies, full and productive employment and decent work, encouraging their effective and meaningful participation, protecting their human rights, combating ageism and all forms of violence against them, as well as obtaining data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographical location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[52] and stressing the need to ensure that issues of relevance to older persons are taken into account in its implementation in order to ensure that no one is left behind, including older persons,

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[53] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[54] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[55] the Convention on the Elimination

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[49] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Portugal, Republic of Korea, Serbia, Slovenia, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[50] *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, annexes I and II.

[51] A/77/134.

[52] Resolution 70/1.

[53] Resolution 217 A (III).

[54] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[55] Ibid.

of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[56] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[57] and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[58]

Noting the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families[59] and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[60]

Noting also the regional developments on the protection and promotion of the human rights of older persons, including the Inter-American Convention on Protecting the Human Rights of Older Persons and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa,

Noting further that, between 2021 and 2030, the number of persons aged 60 years or over is projected to grow by 31 per cent, from 1.1 billion to 1.4 billion, globally outnumbering youth and constituting double the number of children under age 5,[61] and that this increase will be the greatest and the most rapid in the developing world, and recognizing that greater attention needs to be paid to the specific challenges affecting older persons, including in the field of human rights,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions on ageing, specifically resolution 58.16 of 25 May 2005 on strengthening active and healthy ageing,[62] which stressed the important role of public health policies and programmes in enabling the rapidly growing number of older persons to remain in good health and maintain their many vital contributions to the well-being of their families, communities and societies, resolution 65.3 of 25 May 2012 on strengthening non-communicable disease policies to promote active ageing,[63] which recognized that population ageing is among the major factors contributing to the rising incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases and noted the importance of lifelong health-promotion and disease-prevention activities, and resolution 69.3 of 29 May 2016, entitled "Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020: towards a world in which everyone can live a long and healthy life",[64]

Recalling the proclamation of the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030) in its resolution 75/131 of 14 December 2020,

Recalling also the World Summit on the Information Society and its outcomes,[65] including its special track on ICTs and Older Persons, as well as other relevant intergovernmentally agreed outcomes,

Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a disproportionately heavy impact on older persons, in particular older women, and that responses to the COVID-19 pandemic need to respect their dignity, promote and protect their human rights and take into account all forms of violence, discrimination, stigmatization, exclusion, inequalities as well as neglect, social isolation and loneliness,

Recognizing also that COVID-19 has disproportionately affected older persons living in long-term care facilities, including those in the context of informal long-term care provision, and stressing the importance of testing for COVID-19, providing personal protective equipment in long-term care facilities, securing emergency funding for such facilities, applying telemedicine and telehealth methods for mitigation purposes, and achieving universal health coverage, ensuring fair and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics,

Acknowledging that many developing countries and countries with economies in transition are confronting a double burden of fighting communicable diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, in parallel with the increasing threat of non-communicable diseases, and expressing concern about the impact on older persons,

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[56] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[57] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[58] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[59] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[60] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[61] United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: 2021 Revision*.

[62] See World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1.

[63] See World Health Organization, document WHA65/2012/REC/1.

[64] See World Health Organization, document WHA69/2016/REC/1.

[65] See A/C.2/59/3 and A/60/687.

Concerned that many health systems are not sufficiently prepared to respond to the needs of the rapidly ageing population, including the need for preventive, curative, palliative and specialized care,

Deeply concerned that the situation of older persons in many parts of the world has been negatively affected by the world financial and economic crisis, and noting with concern the high incidence of poverty among them, particularly older single women,

Recognizing the essential contribution that older persons can continue to make to the functioning of societies and towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and recognizing also the importance of the full and effective enjoyment of their human rights,

Concerned about the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that may create additional vulnerabilities for older persons and affect their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and recognizing that, in particular, older women often face multiple forms of discrimination resulting from gender inequality and are at greater risk of physical and psychological abuse and violence,

Recognizing that the prevalence of disabilities increases with age and that many older persons live with a disability,

Recognizing also that ageism is a widely prevalent and prejudicial attitude that may rest on the assumption that neglect of, and discrimination against, older persons is acceptable, and that ageism is the common source of, the justification for and the driving force behind age discrimination,

Recognizing further that the social exclusion of older persons is a complex process involving the lack or denial of resources, rights, goods and services as people age, and the inability of older persons to participate in societal relationships and activities, including cultural activities, available to the majority of people across the varied and multiple domains of society, and that it affects both the quality of life of older persons and the equity and cohesion of an ageing society as a whole, with considerable implications for the enjoyment by older persons of their human rights,

Acknowledging the importance of exploring ways to increase the visibility of and attention to the specific challenges faced by older persons in the global development policy framework, including identifying possible gaps and how best to address them,

Deeply concerned by the increasing number and scale of humanitarian emergencies and their impact on older persons, particularly older women, reiterating the importance of giving due consideration to their specific needs, as well as their capacity to respond, and to the contributions of older persons to the planning and implementation of humanitarian assistance and efforts in disaster risk reduction, and noting with concern that the multiple forms of discrimination experienced by older women can be exacerbated during humanitarian emergencies and aggravate their potential vulnerabilities,

Noting that the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action will take place at the sixty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, in 2023, as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2020/8 of 18 June 2020,

1. *Reaffirms* the Political Declaration and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;

2. *Calls upon* all States and the international community to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts towards an age-inclusive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to mobilize all necessary resources and support in that regard, according to national plans and strategies, including through an integrated and multifaceted approach to improving the well-being of older persons, and in this regard encourages Member States to seize this opportunity to take into account issues of relevance to older persons in their efforts to promote the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals;

3. *Encourages* Member States to address the situation of older persons in their voluntary national reviews presented at the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

4. *Recognizes* that the major challenges faced by older persons undermine their social, economic and cultural participation;

5. *Emphasizes* the need to take effective measures against ageism and to view older persons as active contributors to society and not as passive receivers of care and assistance and an impending burden on welfare systems and economies, while promoting and protecting their human rights;

6. *Encourages* Member States to intensify efforts towards identifying ageing as an opportunity, and recognizes that older persons make substantial contributions to sustainable development efforts, including through their active participation in society;

7. *Recognizes* the challenges related to the enjoyment of all human rights that older persons face in different areas and that those challenges require in-depth analysis and action to address protection gaps, and calls upon all States to promote and ensure the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for older persons, including by progressively taking measures to combat age discrimination, neglect, abuse and violence, as well as social isolation and loneliness, to provide social protection, access to food and housing, health-care services, employment, information and communications technologies, including new technologies, assistive technologies, legal capacity and access to justice and to address issues related to social integration and gender inequality through mainstreaming the rights of older persons into sustainable development strategies, urban policies and poverty reduction strategies, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational solidarity for social development;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons and the renewal of the mandate at the fifty-first session of the Human Rights Council,[66] and stresses the importance of close coordination between the work of the Independent Expert and the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing established by the General Assembly in paragraph 28 of its resolution 65/182, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of their respective mandates and those of other special procedures and subsidiary organs of the Council, and relevant United Nations bodies and treaty bodies;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Independent Expert issued in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 42/12,[67] and encourages Member States to be mindful of the recommendations contained therein;

10. *Invites* Member States to continue to share their national experiences in developing and implementing policies and programmes aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons, including within the framework of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing;

11. *Encourages* Governments to actively address, through national, regional and international efforts, issues that affect older persons and to ensure that the social integration of older persons and the promotion and protection of their rights form an integral part of development policies at all levels;

12. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement non-discriminatory policies, legislation and regulations, to systematically review and amend these, where appropriate, if they discriminate against older persons, especially on the basis of age, and to take appropriate measures to prevent discrimination against older persons in, inter alia, employment, social protection and the provision of social, health-care and long-term care services;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to promote, in accordance with their national priorities, equitable and affordable access to sustainable basic physical and social infrastructure for all, without discrimination, including affordable serviced land, housing, modern and renewable energy, safe drinking water and sanitation, safe, nutritious and adequate food, waste disposal, sustainable mobility, health-care services and family planning, education, culture and information and communications technologies, and to ensure that these services are responsive to the rights and needs of older persons, while recognizing that planning for and providing opportunities for making cities inclusive of older persons' economic and social participation is an important dimension of the construction of sustainable cities;

14. *Recognizes* that the risk of poverty increases with old age in several ways, and that the pandemic has had a negative impact on the financial security of older persons, including older widows, and in this regard calls upon Member States to enable people to reach old age in better economic conditions by, inter alia, addressing barriers in labour markets and inadequate social protection systems and combating elder abuse and neglect as well as the adverse impact of all forms of discrimination and inequalities experienced by older persons, especially older women;

15. *Encourages* Member States to take into account the multidimensional nature of the vulnerability of older persons to poverty and economic insecurity, including through the promotion of good health, care and well-being, in their implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level;

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[66] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A, resolution 51/4.

[67] See A/77/239.

16. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication measures, women's empowerment strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

17. *Encourages* Member States to consider expanding, in accordance with domestic legislation and policies, the reach of sustainable pension schemes, including but not limited to strategies such as social pensions, and increasing their benefits, with a view to ensuring income security in old age;

18. *Also encourages* Member States to develop and implement long-term care strategies, as well as to conduct research on good practices of care strategies, recognizing and supporting both paid and unpaid care work for the benefit of older persons, and to further promote long-term care as a positive social and economic investment and a source of employment expansion;

19. *Further encourages* Member States to promote terms and conditions of care work guided by International Labour Organization standards for all care workers, including but not limited to migrants, and to adopt measures to tackle the gender and age stereotypes for care work;

20. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacities to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action by considering and devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life course and foster intergenerational solidarity, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

21. *Recommends* that Member States increase efforts to raise awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action and identify key priority areas for its implementation, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational family interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development, raising awareness of ageing issues and building national capacities, as well as promoting and supporting initiatives to advance a positive public image of older persons and their multiple contributions to their families, communities and societies and working with the regional commissions, as needed, and enlisting the help of the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat in seeking increased attention for ageing issues;

22. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling the follow-up of national plans of action on ageing, and also encourages Governments to strengthen existing networks of national focal points on ageing;

23. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies that create national policy ownership and consensus-building;

24. *Recommends* that Governments be inclusive in involving older persons and their organizations in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes that affect them, including through simple consultative mechanisms to co-research or co-design such policies and programmes with or by older persons and to take due account of involving those who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and are particularly vulnerable to high incidences of poverty and social exclusion;

25. *Recommends* that Member States enhance their capacity to more effectively collect age-disaggregated data, statistics and qualitative information, disaggregated also, when necessary, by other relevant factors, including sex and disability, in order to improve assessment of the situation of older persons, recognizes that the data revolution presents new opportunities and challenges for the use of new data to help with the measurement of progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, and to ensure that no one is left behind, and in this regard recalls the establishment by the Statistical Commission of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data and the consideration of its work;

26. *Encourages* States parties to existing international human rights instruments, where appropriate, to address the situation of older persons more explicitly in their reports, and encourages treaty body monitoring mechanisms and special procedure mandate holders to pay due regard to the situation of older persons in their dialogue with Member States, particularly in their concluding observations and reports, respectively;

27. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

28. *Encourages* Member States to adopt social policies that promote the development of community services for older persons, taking into account the psychological and physical aspects of ageing and the special needs of older women and older persons with disabilities;

29. *Also encourages* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons, through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, where applicable;

31. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender and disability perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to address and eliminate discrimination on the basis of age, sex or disability, and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, in particular with relevant organizations with an interest in the matter, including organizations of older persons, women and persons with disabilities, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, and promote positive narratives of all older persons;

32. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people, including older persons, have access, without discrimination, to every country's determined sets of needed promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative basic health services and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of such services does not expose older persons to financial hardship, with a special emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized;

33. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to ensure the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and to facilitate the development of robust health systems and universal health coverage, encompassing universal, timely, affordable and equitable access to all essential health technologies, diagnostics, therapeutics, medicines, safe, quality and effective vaccines, especially in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and other health emergencies, in order to ensure full access to COVID-19 immunization for all, in particular older persons, including those who are in vulnerable situations, especially older women;

34. *Recognizes* the importance of tools to achieve extensive immunization against COVID-19 as a global public good for health in preventing, containing and stopping transmission, and to bring the pandemic to an end, by ensuring the availability of safe, quality, efficacious, effective, accessible and affordable vaccines;

35. *Urges* Member States to develop, implement and evaluate policies and programmes that promote healthy and active ageing and the highest attainable standard of health and well-being for older persons and to develop health care for older persons as part of primary care in the existing health systems;

36. *Recognizes* the importance of training, education, lifelong learning and capacity-building of the health workforce, including paid care workers and unpaid caregivers, for home-based care;

37. *Stresses* the need to close all digital divides, including, inter alia, both between and within countries, the rural-urban digital divide, the gender digital divide, and between youth and older persons, which can be experienced by older persons by providing universal and affordable access to and use of information and communications technologies, including new technologies and the meaningful use of digitally enabled services, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to people throughout their life course without discrimination based on age or other forms of discrimination, and welcomes efforts by the United Nations to assist Member States, upon their request, in achieving this;

38. *Encourages* Member States to promote digital literacy with a special focus on enhancing digital skills and competencies of older persons without discrimination of any kind, including socioeconomic status, education level, race and/or ethnicity, gender and disability as well as language barriers, by taking into account national and regional contexts;

39. *Also encourages* Member States to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the basis of age is incorporated and upheld in health and other policies and programmes and that the implementation of such policies and programmes is regularly monitored;

40. *Urges* Member States to strengthen intersectoral policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms, as appropriate, for the integrated management of the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, including health promotion, health-care services and social welfare services, in order to address the needs of older persons;

41. *Calls upon* Member States and other stakeholders to prevent, monitor and address the disproportionate effects of the pandemic on older persons, including the particular risks that they face in accessing social protection and health services, and to ensure that health-care decisions affecting older persons respect their dignity and promote and protect their human rights, including the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

42. *Encourages* Member States to provide services and support to older persons, including grandparents, who have assumed responsibility for children who were abandoned or whose parents are deceased, have migrated, have been displaced, including in the context of humanitarian emergencies, or are otherwise unable to care for their dependants;

43. *Calls upon* Member States to address the issue of the well-being of and adequate health-care services for older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, in particular older women, by designing and implementing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and by developing coherent and comprehensive policy frameworks to address these problems and their underlying factors;

44. *Urges* Member States to increase the resilience of older persons and ensure that they are able to achieve and maintain financial security during emergencies, through, inter alia, addressing the digital gap that currently affects many older persons and protecting them from violence and abuse in digital contexts; strengthening legal and social protection and adopting adequate employment measures; providing better care and support services, promoting long-term care and support at home, in the community and in institutional settings, with a view to ensuring their empowerment, as well as their autonomy and independence; adopting a people-centred, gender-sensitive comprehensive and integrated approach, with full respect for human rights, to health care to improve the well-being of older persons, including mental health care, non-communicable disease management and adult immunization efforts; and developing national vaccination plans that give priority to older persons and are guided by principles of equality and social justice;

45. *Calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures, in accordance with national circumstances and, as appropriate, international humanitarian law, to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, and invites all States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of older persons, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[68] by, inter alia, including older persons in disaster risk reduction and national and local emergency planning and response frameworks, collecting and using data disaggregated by age, sex and disability for policy design and implementation, as well as carrying out risk and vulnerabilities analyses of older women in humanitarian emergencies with a view to minimizing the risk to older women of all forms of violence in such emergencies;

46. *Encourages* Member States to integrate lessons learned from the pandemic with regard to older persons in order to combat ageism, protect the human rights of older persons and strengthen existing policies and laws to address all forms of discrimination in all areas of their life, as well as to take concrete measures that integrate age- and gender-responsive preparedness plans into relevant policy areas at the national and international levels and ensure that older persons and their representatives are consulted in planning and decision-making processes that affect them, on an equal basis with others, in order to address their specific needs;

47. *Encourages* national and local governments to improve access to affordable housing, particularly for older persons, through integrated housing policies and social protection measures, and to provide a range of support services that promote their dignity, autonomy and independence, including by addressing legal and policy barriers to equal and non-discriminatory access to adequate housing for them;

[68] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

48. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure access to justice for older persons, whose right to adequate housing may have been violated due to discrimination based on age;

49. *Encourages* Member States to adopt measures to tackle homelessness and to protect older persons from arbitrary forced eviction, as well as to take all appropriate measures to ensure that adequate alternative housing or relocation is available, especially in situations of emergencies, such as during the COVID-19 pandemic;

50. *Stresses* that, in complementing national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation, in particular North-South cooperation, which is complemented by South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation, is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of such assistance as well as the provision of financial assistance;

51. *Encourages* Member States to establish or to strengthen strategic approaches and policy options in relation to the physical and mental health of older persons in the light of new and emerging disease patterns, notably non-communicable diseases, as well as in relation to increased life expectancy, with particular attention to promoting good health and addressing health needs across a care continuum, including prevention, detection and diagnosis, management and rehabilitation, treatment and palliative care, with the aim of achieving comprehensive health-care coverage for older persons;

52. *Encourages* the international community, including international and bilateral donors, to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable and adequate social and economic support for older persons, while bearing in mind that countries have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development;

53. *Also encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, faith-based organizations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

54. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing, as appropriate, in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information with regard to a gender perspective on ageing, as well as to include indicators that provide an evidence base for the equitable delivery and effective monitoring of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda[69] and national policymaking, as well as to gain a better understanding of how to promote ageing in a way that is not adversely affected by rapid urbanization and gentrification;

55. *Recognizes* the important role of various international and regional organizations that deal with training, capacity-building, policy design and monitoring at the national and regional levels in promoting and facilitating the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and acknowledges the work that is undertaken in various parts of the world, through the regional commissions and regional initiatives, as well as the work of institutes such as the International Institute on Ageing in Malta and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna;

56. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Inter-Agency Group on Ageing, an informal network of interested United Nations entities that exchange information and integrate ageing into their work programmes on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

57. *Requests* the focal point on ageing of the United Nations system, the Programme on Ageing of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, to continue to enhance its collaboration with the focal points of the regional commissions, funds and programmes, and recommends that Member States reaffirm the roles of focal points within the United Nations system, increase technical cooperation efforts, consider expanding the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to promote ageing issues and develop partnerships in this regard;

[69] Resolution 71/256, annex.

58. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the results of its review and appraisal cycle, and in this regard encourages Governments to support the United Nations trust fund for ageing so as to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

59. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its capacity to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, national implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, where appropriate;

60. *Requests* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), to ensure that the situation of older women is mainstreamed and incorporated across their work and to support, in accordance with their respective mandates, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, including gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls through, inter alia, the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against women;

61. *Invites* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including UN-Women, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Health Organization, among others, as well as the International Organization for Migration, to include in reports to their respective governing bodies relevant information on efforts made by Member States and the international community on issues of relevance to older persons, including their social inclusion;

62. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing,[70] and recognizes the positive contributions of Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights mandate holders and treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as national human rights institutions, intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations with an interest in the matter and invited panellists, during the first 12 working sessions of the Working Group, and invites Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Working Group, as appropriate;

63. *Encourages* Member States to continue to contribute to the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, in particular by presenting measures to enhance the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons, such as best practices, lessons learned and possible content for a multilateral legal instrument, as appropriate, in order to enable it to fulfil its existing mandate of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons by considering the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identifying possible gaps and how best to address them, including by considering, as appropriate, the feasibility of further instruments and measures, and by considering adopting at each session intergovernmentally negotiated recommendations to be presented for consideration by the General Assembly;

64. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support to the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing for the organization of its thirteenth session, of four days, in April 2023, with the provision of conference services, including interpretation services, and to include the annual sessions of the Working Group in the Organization's calendar of conferences and meetings;

65. *Invites* the Independent Expert to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session under the agenda item entitled "Social development";

66. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

[70] See A/AC.278/2016/2, A/AC.278/2017/2, A/AC.278/2018/2, A/AC.278/2019/2, A/AC.278/2021/2 and A/AC.278/2022/2.

RESOLUTION 77/191

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/455, para. 32)[71]

77/191. Preparations for and observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005, 62/129 of 18 December 2007, 64/133 of 18 December 2009, 66/126 of 19 December 2011, 67/142 of 20 December 2012, 68/136 of 18 December 2013, 69/144 of 18 December 2014, 71/163 of 19 December 2016, 72/145 of 19 December 2017, 73/144 of 17 December 2018, 74/124 of 18 December 2019, 75/153 of 16 December 2020 and 76/139 of 16 December 2021, concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth, twentieth and thirtieth anniversaries,

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 for increasing cooperation on family issues at all levels and for undertaking concerted action to strengthen family-oriented policies and programmes as part of an integrated 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, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and eliminating all forms of violence, in particular against women and girls, and supporting the overall quality of life of families, including families in vulnerable situations, so that family members can realize their full potential, as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Acknowledging that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-oriented components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Acknowledging also that the International Year and its follow-up processes have served as catalysts for initiatives at the national and international levels, including family-oriented policies and programmes to reduce poverty and hunger and promote the well-being of all at all ages, and can boost development efforts, contribute to better outcomes for children and help to break the intergenerational transfer of poverty in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[72]

Expressing solidarity with all people affected by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, expressing deep concern over its continuous socioeconomic impact on families and on the roles within families affected by the loss of family members and caregivers, increased poverty, malnutrition, unemployment and unpaid care work, the disruption of education, as well as worsening mental health outcomes and an alarming increase in violence, in particular domestic violence, as well as harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriages, recognizing that many families play a role in caring for their members, which constitutes an additional challenge for families, and reaffirming the responsibility of States in protecting families from the negative effects of the pandemic,

Recognizing that the 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 families and family members in vulnerable situations, inter alia, by providing access to full and productive employment and decent

[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belarus, Kazakhstan, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Russian Federation, Türkiye and Uzbekistan.

[72] Resolution 70/1.

work, as well as effective, inclusive, resilient and gender-sensitive social protection systems and public services, and measures to ensure a work-family and a work-life balance, while also acknowledging that women and girls undertake a disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work, and stressing the need to recognize and 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,

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 autonomy, security and well-being of children and 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 between generations, as well as in promoting and protecting the human rights of all family members,

Acknowledging further 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 with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[73]

2. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes and to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues 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 and ensure the well-being of all at all ages in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

3. *Calls upon* Member States, United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, and other relevant stakeholders, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, to offer support to family members, including working parents, and provide access to full and productive employment and decent work, as well as effective, inclusive, resilient and gender-responsive social protection systems and public services, expanded child and family benefits, paid parental leave and sick leave, improved flexibility of working arrangements and investments in parenting education;

4. *Calls upon* Member States, United Nations entities and relevant stakeholders to promote the preparations for the observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2024 at the national, regional and international levels through practical initiatives, including family-oriented policies and programmes responding to the needs of all families;

5. *Invites* relevant stakeholders, as part of the preparations for the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, to support research, awareness-raising activities at the national, regional and international levels on the impact of technological, urbanization, migration, demographic and climate change trends on families;

6. *Invites* Member States and relevant stakeholders, as part of the preparations for the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, within the area of technological change and its impact on families, to bridge the digital divide, including between developed and developing countries, as well as the gender digital divide, to enable equal access to risk-informed information, knowledge and communications, by taking concrete measures to promote equal access for all to digital training, capacity-building, through equal access to information and communications technologies, mobile devices and the Internet, so as to promote their empowerment and digital literacy, and to improve access to the Internet, higher-speed Internet and digital devices for families, especially those in vulnerable situations, invest in the digital literacy skills of all family members, invest in parenting education, including through the use of technology, as a valuable preventive strategy against cyberbullying and violence against children in digital contexts and for reducing child neglect, and support the healthy development of children, as part of child-focused policies and as a component of wider family-oriented policies and programmes;

[73] A/77/61-E/2022/4.

7. *Invites* relevant stakeholders, including Member States, to promote work-family balance in the digital world, grant workers with family responsibilities flexibility in work schedules to enable them to meet the needs of work and family and invest in reliable technology support and education;

8. *Encourages* Member States and other relevant stakeholders to expand evidence-based research on the impacts of new technologies, including information and communications technologies and artificial intelligence, on families, work-family balance and parenting education design, delivery and implementation, including through the integration of technology, in order to develop adequate policies to support workers with family responsibilities, as part of the preparations for the observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family;

9. *Invites* Member States to invest in a variety of inclusive, family-oriented gender-sensitive policies and programmes, which take into account the different needs and expectations of all families, as important tools for, inter alia, fighting poverty, social exclusion, discrimination and inequality, promoting work-family balance and gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and advancing social integration and intergenerational solidarity, to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

10. *Encourages* Member States to continue to enact inclusive and responsive family-oriented policies for poverty reduction to confront family poverty and social exclusion, recognizing the multidimensional aspects of poverty, focusing on inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning for all, health and well-being for all at all ages, full and productive employment, decent work, social security, livelihoods and social cohesion, including through gender- and age-sensitive social protection systems and measures, such as child allowances for parents and pension benefits for older persons, and to ensure that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of all family members are respected;

11. *Also 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 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;

12. *Further encourages* Member States to take appropriate steps to provide affordable, accessible and good-quality childcare facilities and facilities for children and other dependants and measures promoting the equal sharing of household responsibilities between women and men, recognizing, reducing and redistributing women's and girls' disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work and fully engaging men and boys as agents and beneficiaries of change and as strategic partners and allies in this regard;

13. *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 ageing, intergenerational solidarity and social cohesion;

14. *Also encourages* Member States to invest in family-oriented policies and programmes and to provide universal and gender-sensitive social protection systems, which are key to ensuring poverty reduction, including, as appropriate, targeted cash transfers for families in vulnerable situations, as can be the case of families 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 basic services, high-quality education and health-care services, in addition to family services and counselling;

15. *Further encourages* Member States to provide legal identity, including birth registration, in accordance with international law, including relevant provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[74] and/or relevant provisions

[74] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[75] and death registration, as a means of, inter alia, promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and access to benefits, including social protection;

16. *Invites* Member States to invest in accessible and affordable infrastructure, including adequate and affordable housing with support services for families, social services centres and transportation, to benefit families and prevent family homelessness and address its causes, including poverty, domestic violence and the lack of affordable housing, and to build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination;

17. *Encourages* Member States to invest in parenting education as a tool to enhance children's well-being and prevent all forms of violence against children, including through promoting non-violent forms of discipline, and to ensure that parenting education programmes are inclusive of parents, grandparents and, where applicable, the members of the extended family or community as provided by local custom, legal guardians or other persons legally responsible for the children, maintaining a gender perspective throughout;

18. *Also encourages* Member States to establish policies that support all families in providing a nurturing environment, and in preventing and eliminating domestic violence and harmful practices, including female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage;

19. *Further encourages* Member States to improve the collection and use of data, disaggregated by age, sex and other relevant criteria, for the formulation and evaluation of family-oriented policies and programmes to effectively respond to the challenges faced by families and harness their contribution to development;

20. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations trust fund on family activities;

21. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen cooperation with 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;

22. *Encourages* further collaboration between the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations entities, agencies, funds and programmes, as well as other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the family field, as well as the enhancement of research efforts and awareness-raising activities relating to the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes, including the preparations for the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family;

23. *Requests* the focal point on the family of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to enhance collaboration with the regional commissions, funds and programmes, recommends that the roles of focal points within the United Nations system be reaffirmed, and invites Member States to increase technical cooperation efforts, consider enhancing the role of the regional commissions on family issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on family issues and enhance cooperation with all relevant stakeholders to promote family issues and develop partnerships in this regard;

24. *Calls upon* Member States and agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, in consultation with civil society and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to provide information on their activities, including on good practices at the national, regional and international levels, including the relevant United Nations forums, in support of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes, including the preparations for its thirtieth anniversary, to be included in the report of the Secretary-General;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, including a description of the state of preparation for the observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year at all levels;

26. *Decides* to consider the topic "Preparations for and observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family" at its seventy-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, persons with disabilities and the family" of the item entitled "Social development".

[75] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

RESOLUTION 77/192

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/455, para. 32)[76]

77/192. Literacy for life: shaping future agendas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the 10-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade, its resolution 57/166 of 18 December 2002, in which it welcomed the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade,[77] and its resolutions 59/149 of 20 December 2004, 61/140 of 19 December 2006, 63/154 of 18 December 2008, 65/183 of 21 December 2010, 68/132 of 18 December 2013, 69/141 of 18 December 2014, 71/166 of 19 December 2016, 73/145 of 17 December 2018 and 75/155 of 16 December 2020,

Recalling also the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[78] which includes Sustainable Development Goal 4 on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, with a specific target on ensuring that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy by 2030,

Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition by every child, young person and adult of the essential knowledge, skills and competencies that will enable them to address the challenges that they may face in life and represents an essential condition of lifelong learning, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the knowledge societies and economies of the twenty-first century, and to promote inclusive and equitable societies,

Reaffirming the right of Indigenous Peoples to have non-discriminatory access to all levels and forms of education provided by States, and recognizing the importance of effective measures to promote access for Indigenous individuals, in particular children, to education in their own language, whenever possible, as addressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[79]

Deeply concerned that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, an estimated 770 million adults,[80] two thirds of them women, lack basic literacy skills, and that 70 per cent of 10-year-old children in low- and middle-income countries are not able to read and understand a simple text, and that 244 million children, adolescents and youth worldwide (or one in five) were out of school in 2021 – a figure that has barely changed over the past decade,

Stressing the importance of ensuring a proper return to school for all children and youth still out of school as a consequence of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, in particular girls, who are among those disproportionately lacking access to education,

Recognizing that literacy is crucial in a lifelong learning perspective as a continuum of different proficiency levels that are developed throughout life and across different life contexts,

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[76] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia.

[77] See A/57/218 and A/57/218/Corr.1.

[78] Resolution 70/1.

[79] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[80] See A/77/187.

Recognizing also that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of education in order to enable millions of people to acquire literacy skills for decent work,

Recognizing further the critical role of teachers and educators in ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education, and the importance of strengthening their capacities, skills and competencies by providing support, including through the necessary trainings, devices, materials and technological infrastructure, as well as the challenges faced by teachers and educators in online and digital learning, and the importance of developing digital skills among teachers and educators,

Recognizing that literacy is a foundation for lifelong learning, a building block for achieving human rights and fundamental freedoms and a driver of sustainable development, and that the United Nations Literacy Decade (2003–2012) had a catalytic effect as a global framework for sustained and focused efforts for the promotion of literacy and literate environments,

Reaffirming the need to ensure access to inclusive and equitable quality education, including digital literacy, in order to adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing world, and in this regard stressing that information and communications technologies and applications can create new ways to enhance education, including early childhood education and lifelong learning opportunities, while recognizing the need to close all digital divides and promote digital inclusion by taking into account national and regional contexts and addressing the challenges associated with access, connectivity, affordability, digital literacy and digital skills and awareness, and by ensuring that the benefits of new technologies are available to all, taking into account the needs of those who are in vulnerable situations,

Deeply concerned that the disproportionate impacts of the unprecedented global school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated pre-existing inequalities between and within countries and between and within educational systems in access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities, and that the impact of the pandemic on equal learning opportunity is further exacerbated by the digital divides between those who had the means to continue education remotely and those who did not, as well as the rural-urban, youth-older persons and gender digital divides,

Recalling the International Conference on Girls' and Women's Literacy and Education: Foundations for Sustainable Development, held in Dhaka and co-hosted by the Government of Bangladesh and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in support of the Global Education First Initiative and on the occasion of International Literacy Day, on 8 September 2014, and taking note with appreciation of the adoption of the Dhaka Declaration,

Affirming that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the promotion of human rights, gender equality, the empowerment of women and the eradication of poverty, as well as to development,

Recalling the importance of continuing to implement national and subnational programmes and measures to eliminate illiteracy worldwide as reflected in the Dakar Framework for Action, adopted on 28 April 2000 at the World Education Forum,[81] consistent with Sustainable Development Goal 4, and in this regard recognizing the important contribution of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation through, inter alia, innovative pedagogical methods in literacy,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, nearly two thirds of the world's non-literate adults are women,

Concerned that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, one third of the children not attending school are children with disabilities and that the literacy rate among adults with disabilities is as low as 3 per cent in some countries,

Deeply concerned about the impact of disrupted educational services in humanitarian emergencies on efforts to promote literacy skills, especially for all children and young people,

[81] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Literacy for life: shaping future agendas, and education for democracy";[82]

2. *Commends* the efforts made by Member States, their development partners, the international donor community, the private sector, civil society and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the lead organization of the United Nations Literacy Decade, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in promoting enjoyment of the right to education, including by making progress on the five strategic axes of action for the period following the Decade;

3. *Calls upon* Governments at all levels, as appropriate, to scale up literacy, including digital literacy programmes for all boys and girls, youth and adults, including older persons, with particular attention to those in vulnerable situations, to foster inclusive and innovative delivery of literacy services, including through further harnessing the innovative and transformative potential of digital technology and a strengthened institutional network, to promote an intersectoral approach by linking literacy learning with multiple sectors to address diverse learning needs, such as through relevant and inclusive educational resources in different languages, to establish multi-stakeholder partnerships with the active participation of civil society and the private sector, to encourage the integration of literacy learning into vocational education and training, to mobilize resources to strengthen literacy measurements and statistics, and to invest in education management information systems and data management capacities according to every State's financial and human capabilities;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to increase investment in inclusive and equitable quality education, including early childhood education, youth and adult literacy programmes or initiatives, skills enhancement and lifelong learning;

5. *Encourages* Member States, United Nations organizations, multilateral and bilateral donors, regional organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector to sustain their collective efforts for the promotion of literacy and literate environments and to contribute to the implementation of the Strategies (2020–2025) of the Global Alliance for Literacy within the Framework of Lifelong Learning for synergistic action at the global, regional, national and community levels;

6. *Recalls* the adoption by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of its Strategy for Youth and Adult Literacy (2020–2025) and its action plan;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption of the Marrakech Framework for Action at the seventh International Conference on Adult Education, held from 15 to 17 June 2022, stressing the transformative power of adult learning and education for sustainable development and lifelong learning;

8. *Urges* international development partners and Governments to cooperate in order to strive to ensure that sufficient and sustainable funds continue to be mobilized, including to address or mitigate the effects driven by the COVID-19 pandemic, by and channelled through existing international financing mechanisms for education and that they also explicitly target and benefit youth and adult literacy;

9. *Takes note* of the Transforming Education Summit, convened by the Secretary-General from 16 to 19 September 2022, as well as its Pre-Summit, hosted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris from 28 to 30 June 2022;

10. *Welcomes* the establishment of the United Nations Youth Office, takes note of its function to support ongoing efforts towards the mobilization of financial and technical support and investment to promote and upscale quality and inclusive education and training, skills development, capacity-building and bridging the digital divides, in tandem with job creation, for youth and creating an enabling environment for harnessing their talents and abilities to contribute to their societies, and in this regard recognizes its potential positive contribution towards ensuring youth and adult literacy;[83]

11. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations, regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders to cooperate in strengthening the capacities of school directors, teachers and educators to ensure literacy, including

[82] A/77/187.

[83] Resolution 76/306, para. 3 (i).

through the development of intercultural and digital skills and competencies among them, as well as of the capacities to develop relevant pedagogical methods in literacy;

12. *Calls upon* States, and invites other relevant stakeholders, to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including all literacy-related Sustainable Development Goals and targets;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to work with relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, to take steps to close the digital divides, including the rural-urban, youth-older persons and gender digital divides, and promote digital inclusion by addressing the challenges associated with access, affordability, digital literacy and digital skills, ensuring that the benefits of new technologies, particularly on literacy, are available to all, including those living in rural and remote areas, taking into account the needs of those who are in vulnerable situations, and providing distance learning opportunities, especially in developing countries;

14. *Urges* Member States and other relevant stakeholders to take measures to ensure the proper training of teachers and other educational professionals in digital literacy and the availability of and access to learning materials and remote learning platforms to close the digital divides, including by removing barriers such as poor access to connectivity, the lack of affordability of connection and devices, limited digital skills and the absence of locally relevant digital content, in order to provide distance learning opportunities, inter alia, Internet, television and radio teaching alternatives, especially in developing countries;

15. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as the specialized United Nations agency for education, to continue its mandated role to lead and coordinate the Education 2030 agenda, in particular through the renewed global education cooperation mechanism, including the strengthened Sustainable Development Goal 4 Education 2030 High-level Steering Committee,[84] as an inclusive global multi-stakeholder consultation and coordination mechanism for education in the 2030 Agenda in accordance with the 2030 Agenda follow-up and review process;

16. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its coordinating and catalysing role through the implementation of the strategy of the Global Alliance for Literacy and by continuing to provide support to Member States, in collaboration with partners, in enhancing capacities for policy formulation, programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as well as sharing information and knowledge on policies, programmes and progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal targets connected with literacy, especially target 4.1 on reading skills in primary and lower secondary school (including in Indigenous languages) and target 4.6 on youth and adult literacy, and creating synergies of action between the Alliance and other initiatives, including its Global Partnership for Girls' and Women's Education and Global Network of Learning Cities;

17. *Encourages* efforts to provide quality education in safe learning environments for all, especially for boys, girls and youth, in humanitarian emergencies to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Social development", the sub-item entitled "Literacy for life: shaping future agendas".

[84] See A/77/187.

RESOLUTION 77/193

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 170 to 1, with 8 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/456, para. 61)[85]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Abstaining: Algeria, Belarus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Gabon, Libya, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic

77/193. Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: gender stereotypes and negative social norms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/143 of 19 December 2006, 62/133 of 18 December 2007, 63/155 of 18 December 2008, 64/137 of 18 December 2009, 65/187 of 21 December 2010, 67/144 of 20 December 2012 and all its previous resolutions on the elimination of violence against women, as well as its resolutions 69/147 of 18 December 2014, 71/170 of 19 December 2016, 73/148 of 17 December 2018 and 75/161 of 16 December 2020 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[86] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[87]

Reaffirming also the obligation of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reaffirming further that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[88] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[89] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[90] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial

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[85] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[86] Resolution 217 A (III).

[87] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[88] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[89] Ibid.

[90] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

Discrimination,[91] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[92] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto,[93]

Reaffirming further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[94] the Beijing Declaration[95] and Platform for Action,[96] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[97] and the outcomes of their review conferences, and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[98]

Welcoming the commitment to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[99] and in the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-sixth session[100] and previous sessions, recognizing that women play a vital role as agents of change for sustainable development, and acknowledging that achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is crucial to making progress across all Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Recalling all previous agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including at its sixty-fifth session, on 26 March 2021, on women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,[101] and at its fifty-seventh session, on 15 March 2013, on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls,[102] taking note of all international, regional and national initiatives in this regard, such as the Generation Equality Forum, which was convened by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and co-chaired by France and Mexico, in partnership with civil society,

Recalling also the commitment to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation, contained in Sustainable Development Goal 5, in particular targets 5.2 and 5.3, the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, contained in Sustainable Development Goal 16, and the commitment to leave no one behind,

Acknowledging the importance of combating trafficking in persons in order to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, and in this regard stressing the importance of the full and effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[103] as well as of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[104] and reaffirming the obligation to take or strengthen measures, including through bilateral or multilateral cooperation, to alleviate the factors that make women and girls vulnerable to trafficking, such as poverty, underdevelopment and lack of equal opportunity,

Deeply concerned about the continued prevalence of violence against women and girls in all its different forms and manifestations worldwide, offline and online, which is underrecognized and underreported, particularly at the community level, and its pervasiveness, which reflects discriminatory norms that reinforce stereotypes, including gender stereotypes and negative social norms, and gender inequality and the corresponding impunity and lack of

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[91] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[92] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[93] Ibid., vols. 1577, 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

[94] Resolution 48/104.

[95] *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, annex I.

[96] Ibid., annex II.

[97] *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.

[98] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[99] Resolution 70/1.

[100] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2022, Supplement No. 7* (E/2022/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[101] Ibid., *2021, Supplement No. 7* (E/2021/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[102] Ibid., *2013, Supplement No. 7* (E/2013/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[103] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[104] Resolution 64/293.

accountability, reiterating the need to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres in all regions of the world, and re-emphasizing that violence against women and girls violates, and impairs their full enjoyment of, all human rights,

Emphasizing that domestic violence against women and girls of all social strata across the world is a violation, abuse or impairment of the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms and, as such, is unacceptable, and gravely concerned that domestic violence, including intimate partner violence and marital rape, remains the most prevalent and least visible form of violence,

Deeply concerned by the impact of historical and structural inequalities, unequal power relations, gender stereotypes and negative social norms, perceptions and customs and disregard for women and girls' dignity, integrity and autonomy, that are among the primary causes of gender-based violence and harmful practices against women and girls and that reinforce the lower status of girls and adolescent girls in society,

Recognizing that violence against women and girls is one of the fundamental social, political and economic means by which the position of women with respect to men is regarded as subordinate and their stereotyped roles are perpetuated, and that this violence is rooted in gender stereotypes and negative social norms, such as the ideology of men's entitlement and privilege over women, and perceptions of masculinity, including the need to assert male control or power, leading to the justification, normalization, condonement and perpetuation of violence and stigmatization of victims and survivors,

Recognizing also the challenges and obstacles to eliminating discriminatory attitudes, gender stereotypes and negative social norms that perpetuate multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination against women and girls, and stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of international standards and norms to eliminate gender inequality,

Expressing deep concern at the continuing reports of grave abuses and violence committed against migrant women and girls, including gender-based violence, sexual violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, domestic violence, gender-related killing of women and girls, including femicide, racist and xenophobic acts and expressions, discrimination, abusive labour practices, exploitative conditions of work and trafficking in persons, including forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, while taking into account the particular difficulties in accessing justice that may be faced by women migrant workers and acknowledging the challenges in recognizing their positive contributions,

Expressing its concern that incidents of racial and religious intolerance, discrimination and related violence against women and girls, because of negative racial and religious stereotyping, continue to rise around the world, and condemning, in this context, any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and urging States to take effective measures, consistent with their obligations under international human rights law, to address and combat such incidents,

Deeply concerned that women and girls with disabilities face an increased risk of violence based on stereotypes that dehumanize, infantilize, objectify, exclude or isolate them,

Reaffirming the right to freely choose a spouse, to enter into marriage only with free and full consent and to have control over and to decide freely and responsibly on matters relating to sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, and recognizing that equal relationships in matters of sexual relations and reproduction, including full respect for dignity, integrity and autonomy, are key to preventing and eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls,

Recognizing that stereotypes portraying the role and the value of women solely as mothers and wives may contribute to discrimination and violence against women and girls, and in particular against widows, female heads of household, single and divorced women, women without children and women experiencing infertility,

Recognizing also that those who are exposed to or experience violence in childhood are at increased risk of becoming perpetrators of violence against women and girls and more likely to experience violence later in life, and therefore recognizing the need to address the root causes of violence, including gender stereotypes and negative social norms, in order to help to stop the intergenerational cycle of violence,

Recognizing further the contributions of family members in combating violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, and that in preventing such violence family members can play an important role, and

emphasizing men's responsibilities as partners, parents and caregivers in the equal sharing of unpaid care and domestic work, as a means of enabling women to increase their participation in decision-making in public life and in the labour market,

Expressing concern at institutional and structural discrimination against all women and girls, such as laws, policies, regulations, programmes, administrative procedures or structures, services and practices that directly or indirectly restrict access to institutions, property and landownership, inheritance, nationality, health care and services, education, justice, women's employment and access to credit, which place them at increased risk of violence, and compound the violence experienced, and constitute a major impediment to their full, equal, meaningful and effective participation in society, as well as economic and political life,

Recognizing that women's poverty and lack of empowerment, as well as their marginalization resulting from their exclusion from social and economic policies and from the benefits of education and sustainable development, can place them at increased risk of violence, and that violence against women and girls impedes the social and economic and therefore the sustainable development of communities and States, as well as the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development goals,

Recognizing also the importance of relevant International Labour Organization standards related to the realization of women's right to work and rights at work which are critical for women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life and the elimination of violence, recalling the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization and the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and noting the importance of their effective implementation,

Stressing the need to eliminate gender stereotypes and negative social norms in the world of work that condone violence against women and girls, including through, but not limited to, quality education, training and awareness-raising campaigns, associated with a change in attitudes and increased knowledge about sexual harassment, particularly among men and boys, as well as ensuring equal pay for work of equal value and reaffirming the necessity of recognizing, valuing, reducing and redistributing unpaid care and domestic work,

Recognizing that many women who are pregnant and/or mothers face discrimination in the workplace based on gender stereotypes and negative social norms, and noting that such discriminatory attitudes can negatively affect all women in the world of work,

Recognizing also that educational opportunities, as well as equal access to gender-responsive education addressing consent, respecting boundaries and what constitutes unacceptable behaviour and how to report it, are effective ways to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls, to combat gender stereotypes and negative social norms, and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, women's formal employment and economic opportunities and their active participation in economic, social and cultural development, governance and decision-making,

Recognizing further the need to provide or strengthen human rights education and training for health-care workers, the police, law enforcement officers and prison staff, and other relevant professions, so as to combat gender stereotypes and negative social norms that condone violence against women and girls,

Recognizing that images, videos and other content in the media and digital contexts of women and girls and violence against them, in particular those that depict rape, sexual exploitation or sexual slavery, are factors contributing to the continued prevalence of such violence, and that the arts, media and other forms of communication can exacerbate, maintain or combat gender stereotypes and negative social norms,

Recognizing also that the growing impact of violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment and abuse, in digital contexts, especially on social media, its impunity and the lack of legislative and preventive measures and remedies underline the need for action by Member States, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, and that such violence may include stalking, death threats and threats of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as related trends against women and girls in digital contexts, such as trolling, cyberbullying and other forms of cyberharassment, including unwanted verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature, arbitrary or unlawful surveillance and tracking, trafficking in persons, extortion, censorship and the hacking of digital accounts, mobile telephones and other electronic devices, limiting women's equal participation in public life, including through discrediting or silencing women and girls, compromising their health, emotional and psychological well-being and safety and/or inciting other violations and abuses against them,

Noting the fact that several countries have criminalized the non-consensual online dissemination of intimate or sexually explicit images of adult persons, ensuring that victims do not have to rely solely on other criminal law provisions,

Alarmed by the fact that violence against women and girls, including gender-related killings of women and girls, also known as femicide, which constitutes an extreme form of violence against women and girls, is among the least punished crimes owing to, inter alia, gender bias among the judiciary and law enforcement, and recognizing the key role of the criminal justice system, including law enforcement officials, in preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, including in ending impunity for such crimes,

Underscoring that gender stereotypes and negative social norms, including when leading to shame or stigma, and all forms of discrimination, including structural discrimination, as well as discriminatory legal, practical and structural barriers to access to justice and legal services, a lack of information and awareness, the fear of reprisals, gender bias in the judiciary and law enforcement, risk of revictimization, harassment and possible retribution, persisting impunity, insufficient recourse for victims of violence against women and girls, and negative economic consequences, such as loss of livelihood or reduced income for women, prevent many women and girls from reporting or acting as witnesses and from seeking redress and justice for these crimes,

Recognizing that women human rights defenders, politicians, journalists and other media workers, and women in leadership positions that challenge accepted sociocultural norms, traditions, perceptions and stereotypes, including gender stereotypes and negative social norms, are at greater risk of facing certain forms of violence, and gravely concerned that impunity for violations and abuses against them persists owing to factors such as a lack of reporting, documentation, investigation and access to justice, social barriers and constraints with regard to addressing sexual and gender-based violence and the stigmatization that may result from such violations and abuses,

Deeply concerned that all women and girls, especially in developing countries, including small island developing States, and particularly those in vulnerable situations, are often disproportionately affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, environmental degradation, biodiversity loss, extreme weather events and natural disasters and other environmental issues, which may exacerbate existing structural inequalities as well as violence against women and girls and harmful practices, including the incidence of child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, and emphasizing the lack of sufficient data and understanding of the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on violence against women and girls,

Recognizing that all women and girls, especially victims and survivors of all forms of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, living in areas affected by complex humanitarian emergencies and in areas affected by terrorism and conflict, have particular needs, including regarding their physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health, and that global health threats, climate change, more frequent and intense natural disasters, conflicts, violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, and related humanitarian crises and the forced displacement of people threaten to reverse much of the development progress made in recent decades and have particular negative impacts on women and girls that need to be comprehensively assessed and addressed,

Stressing that men and boys need to support and take concrete actions for more equal power relations, and therefore stressing the need to fully engage men and boys as strategic partners, allies and beneficiaries in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and in preventing and eliminating all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including by combating gender stereotypes and negative social norms, such as patriarchal masculinity, sexism and misogyny,

Recognizing the need to promote the full, effective, equal and meaningful participation of women in all their diversity and women's and girls' rights organizations and women's organizations, including victims and survivors of violence, in the development, implementation and evaluation of gender-responsive policies, regulations and legislation designed to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to allow civil society to operate freely and safely,

1. *Strongly condemns* all forms of violence against all women and girls, which often occur in a continuum and throughout the life course, and their persistence and pervasiveness, recognizing that they are an impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and to the full realization of their human rights;

2. *Stresses* that "violence against women and girls" means any act of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering

to women and girls, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life, online and offline, and notes the economic and social harm caused by such violence;

3. *Urges* States to strongly condemn all forms of violence against women and girls, both offline and online, and reaffirms that they should not invoke any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination and should pursue, by all appropriate means and without delay, a policy of eliminating all forms of violence against women, as set out in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;

4. *Calls upon* States to address multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, which place women and girls at greater risk of exploitation, violence and abuse, to implement measures to prevent and eliminate gender stereotypes, negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours that cause or perpetuate discrimination and violence against women and girls and to ensure their participation and leadership in society;

5. *Urges* States to take comprehensive, multisectoral, coordinated, effective and gender-responsive measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls and to address structural and underlying causes and risk factors, including by:

(a) Designing and implementing legislation and policies to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and harmful practices against all women and girls, including sexual and gender-based violence, domestic violence, including intimate partner violence and marital rape, online violence, sexual harassment, gender-related killing of women and girls, including femicide and female infanticide, child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, and to end impunity for such cases;

(b) Addressing and eliminating the root causes of gender inequality, including all forms of discrimination against women and girls, patriarchal values, unequal power relations, gender stereotypes and negative social norms, perceptions and customs and harmful social norms, attitudes and behaviours, which justify, normalize, condone or perpetuate violence against women and girls and stigmatize victims and survivors;

(c) Preventing and eliminating, in all public and private spheres, discrimination, gender stereotypes, negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours and unequal power relations by which women and girls are regarded as subordinate to men and boys, and that underlie and perpetuate male domination, by designing and implementing gender-responsive policies, regulations and legislation that are aimed at eliminating discriminatory attitudes and social and cultural patterns of conduct that condone violence against all women and girls;

(d) Addressing and eliminating gender stereotypes and negative social norms that perpetuate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, which reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and can be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and limitation or denial of their human rights;

(e) Eliminating gender stereotypes and negative social norms that can lead to violence against migrant women and girls, including women migrant workers, by addressing the structural and underlying causes of all forms of violence against them, including through education and the dissemination of information to combat misinformation and stigma against them, by acknowledging their positive contributions, thereby combating negative perceptions of them, and by raising awareness of gender equality issues and promoting their economic empowerment and access to decent work;

(f) Taking measures to empower women by, inter alia, strengthening their economic autonomy and ensuring their full, effective, equal and meaningful participation in society and in decision-making processes by adopting and implementing social and economic policies that guarantee women full and equal access to opportunities, resources and basic services such as quality education and training and affordable and adequate public and social services, as well as full and equal access to financial, natural and productive resources and decent work, equal pay for work of equal value, and full and equal rights to own and have access to and control over land and other property, and guaranteeing women's and girls' inheritance rights, and taking further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness of and inadequate housing for women in order to reduce their vulnerability to violence;

(g) Enacting or strengthening and enforcing laws and policies to eliminate all forms of violence and harassment against women of all ages in the world of work, including by eliminating gender stereotypes and negative social norms;

(h) Adopting measures to recognize, reduce and redistribute women's and girls' disproportionate share of unpaid care, informal and domestic work and to tackle the persisting feminization of poverty, including through poverty eradication measures, labour policies, public services and social protection programmes, and to address the discrimination and gender inequality, including gender stereotypes and negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours and unequal power relations in which women and girls are viewed as subordinate to men and boys, that are at the root of these imbalances;

(i) Ensuring the promotion and protection of the human rights of all women and their sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences, including through the development and enforcement of policies and legal frameworks and the strengthening of health systems that make universally accessible and available quality, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health-care services, commodities, information and education, including safe and effective methods of modern contraception, emergency contraception, prevention programmes for adolescent pregnancy, maternal health care such as skilled birth attendance and emergency obstetric care, which will reduce obstetric fistula and other complications of pregnancy and delivery, safe abortion where such services are permitted by national law, and prevention and treatment of reproductive tract infections, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and reproductive cancers, recognizing that human rights include the right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free from coercion, discrimination and violence;

(j) Developing and implementing programmes that aim to prevent and eliminate gender disparities in enrolment and gender stereotypes and negative social norms in education systems, curricula and materials, whether derived from any discriminatory practices, social or cultural attitudes or legal and economic circumstances;

(k) Implementing, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders, effective violence prevention and response activities in schools and communities, educating children from a young age regarding the importance of treating all people with dignity and respect, and designing educational programmes and teaching materials that support consent, non-violent behaviour, respect for boundaries and what constitutes unacceptable behaviour and how to report it, that eliminate gender stereotypes and negative social norms, build self-esteem and informed decision-making and communication skills and promote the development of respectful relationships based on gender equality, inclusion and respect for human rights;

(l) Developing policies and programmes with the support, where appropriate, of international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, giving priority to formal, informal and non-formal education programmes, including scientifically accurate and age-appropriate comprehensive education that is relevant to cultural contexts, that targets stereotyped gender roles and promotes the values of gender equality and non-discrimination, including positive masculinities, and that provides adolescent girls and boys and young women and men in and out of school, consistent with their evolving capacities, and with appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the best interests of the child as their basic concern, information on sexual and reproductive health and HIV prevention, gender equality and women's empowerment, human rights, physical, psychological and pubertal development, including menstrual health, and power in relationships between women and men, to enable them to build self-esteem and foster informed decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills and to develop respectful relationships, in full partnership with young persons, parents, legal guardians, caregivers, educators and health-care providers, in order to, inter alia, enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection and other risks;

(m) Removing barriers, including political, legal, cultural, social, economic, institutional and religious ones, preventing women's full, equal, effective and meaningful participation in leadership and political and other decision-making positions, taking into account that promoting women to leadership positions may significantly reduce the risk of violence against women and girls and promoting the full, effective, equal and meaningful participation of women and women's organizations, including victims and survivors of violence, in the development, implementation and evaluation of gender-responsive policies, regulations and legislation designed to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to allow civil society to operate freely and safely without fear of intimidation or reprisals;

(n) Preventing, addressing and prohibiting gender-based violence, including sexual harassment, against all women and girls in public and political life, including women in leadership positions, journalists and other media workers, feminists and women human rights defenders, including through practical steps to prevent threats,

harassment and violence, and to combat impunity by ensuring that those responsible for violations and abuses, including sexual and gender-based violence and threats, including in digital contexts, are promptly brought to justice and held accountable through impartial investigations;

(o) Promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of young women and, as appropriate, adolescent girls in decision-making processes by addressing gender-specific barriers and by promoting and enabling spaces where they can express their views of all matters relevant to them, ensuring their full and equal access to quality education, technology and skills development, leadership and mentorship programmes, increased technical and financial support, and protection from all forms of violence and discrimination;

(p) Preventing, addressing and prohibiting all forms of discrimination, intimidation, harassment and violence, both offline and online, that prevent women and girls from fully enjoying all their human rights and fundamental freedoms, and taking all measures to address the gender digital divide and ensure equal access of women and girls to information and communications technology design and consumption, promoting digital, media and information literacy and connectivity to enable the participation of all women and girls in education and training, while noting with concern that new technological developments can perpetuate existing patterns of inequality and discrimination, including in the algorithms used in artificial intelligence-based solutions;

(q) Adopting and implementing effective measures to encourage the media to eliminate discrimination against women and girls, including the harmful and stereotypical portrayal of women or specific groups of women, from their activities, practices and output, including those perpetuated by advertisements, online and in other digital environments, that foster gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and inequality, and to refrain from presenting women and girls as inferior beings and exploiting them as sexual objects and commodities;

(r) Mainstreaming a gender perspective in the conceptualization, development and implementation of digital technologies and related policies and promoting the participation of women in order to address violence and discrimination against women and girls in digital contexts, inter alia by encouraging digital technology companies, including Internet service providers, to respect standards and implement transparent and accessible reporting mechanisms;

(s) Taking appropriate measures for the prevention of all forms of violence, intimidation, threats and attacks against women online and through digital technologies, and to protect them in online spaces, and considering adopting laws, policies and practices that protect them from defamation and hate speech while also respecting their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(t) Ensuring that, in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and in natural disaster situations, the prevention of and response to all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual and gender-based violence and conflict-related sexual violence, are prioritized and effectively addressed and are centred on victims and survivors, while respecting the rights and prioritizing the needs of survivors, including groups that are particularly at risk or may be specifically targeted, including through the investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators and the strengthening of national justice mechanisms to end impunity, the removal of barriers to women's and girls' access to justice, the establishment of complaint and reporting mechanisms and the provision of support and services to victims and survivors;

(u) Addressing gender stereotypes and negative social norms in order to create an enabling environment for women's and girls' empowerment in the context of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters, including in situations of response to extreme weather events;

(v) Engaging, educating, encouraging and supporting men and boys to be positive role models for gender equality and to promote respectful relationships, to refrain from and condemn all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, to increase their understanding of the harmful effects of violence for the victim/survivor and society as a whole, and to ensure that they take responsibility and are held accountable for behaviour, including for behaviour that perpetuates gender stereotypes and negative social norms, including misconceptions about masculinities that underlie discrimination and violence against women and girls, and that men and boys take responsibility for their sexual and reproductive behaviour and for equitable sharing of responsibilities with respect to care and household work;

(w) Designing, implementing and regularly monitoring the impact of national policies, programmes and strategies that address the roles and responsibilities of men and boys, including through combating social-cultural norms and traditional and customary practices that condone violence against all women and girls, counteracting

attitudes by which women and girls are regarded as subordinate to men and boys or as having stereotyped gender roles that perpetuate practices involving violence or coercion, and aiming to ensure the equal sharing of responsibilities within households in unpaid care and domestic work, including through parental leave policies, and increased flexibility in working arrangements which would facilitate the equal sharing of responsibilities;

(x) Recognizing the importance of working with men and boys to combat gender stereotypes and negative social norms and unequal power relations, ensuring that all policies and programmes on preventing and ending violence against women and girls aimed at engaging men and boys are designed and promoted with the ultimate objectives of ensuring that the concerns of all women and girls, their rights, their empowerment, their safety and their voices and women's full, equal and meaningful participation in decision-making and political agendas at all levels are prioritized;

(y) Holding persons in positions of authority, whether in public or private environments, such as teachers, religious and community leaders, traditional authorities, politicians and law enforcement officials, accountable for not complying with and/or upholding laws and regulations relating to violence against women and girls, in order to prevent and respond to such violence in a gender-responsive manner, to end impunity and to avoid the abuse of power leading to violence against women and girls and the revictimization of victims/survivors of such violence;

6. *Also urges* States to take immediate and effective action to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against women and girls and to support and protect all victims and survivors by:

(a) Exercising due diligence and ensuring legislation to prevent, investigate, prosecute and hold to account the perpetrators of all forms of violence against women and girls, to eliminate impunity and to provide for effective access to appropriate remedies and reparations for victims and survivors, ensuring the protection of women and girls, including adequate enforcement of civil remedies, orders of protection and criminal sanctions, and the provision of shelters, mental health and psychosocial services, counselling, health-care services and other types of support services, in order to avoid revictimization, promoting an empowering environment, and in doing so contributing to the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls subjected to violence;

(b) Removing all barriers to women's access to justice and accountability mechanisms and ensuring that they all have access to information about their rights as well as effective legal assistance so that they can make informed decisions regarding, inter alia, legal proceedings and issues relating to family law, and also ensuring that they have access to just and effective victim-centred remedies for the harm that they have suffered, including formal and appropriate informal justice mechanisms, as provided for by national legislation and, where necessary, the adoption of national legislation, bearing in mind that victims and survivors may be subjected to further discrimination or reprisals;

(c) Providing relevant, comprehensive and victim-centred legal protection in full respect of human rights to support and assist victims and survivors of all forms of violence, in a gender-responsive manner, including victim and witness protection from reprisals for bringing complaints or giving evidence, within the framework of their national legal systems, including, as appropriate, legislative or other measures, such as addressing gender stereotypes and negative social norms throughout the criminal and civil justice system and law enforcement, taking into account women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination;

(d) Ensuring that services and programmes designed to protect women and girls from violence are accessible to women and girls with disabilities, including those living in institutionalized settings, who are particularly vulnerable to violence, including by ensuring that facilities for such services and programmes are accessible, and disability is mainstreamed in materials and training courses addressed to professionals working on violence against women;

(e) Establishing comprehensive, coordinated, interdisciplinary, accessible and sustained multisectoral services, programmes and responses for all victims and survivors of all forms of violence, including sexual harassment, that are adequately resourced, that are, when possible, in a language that they understand and in which they can communicate and that include effective and coordinated action by, as appropriate, relevant stakeholders, such as the police and the justice sector, as well as providers of legal aid services, health services, shelters, medical and psychological assistance counselling services and protection, and, in cases of girl victims and survivors, ensuring that such services, programmes and responses take into account the best interests of the child;

(f) Establishing and/or strengthening law enforcement, health and social workers' and counsellors' response protocols and procedures to ensure that all appropriate actions are coordinated and taken to protect and respond to the needs of victims of violence, to identify acts of violence and to prevent their recurrence or further acts of violence and

physical and psychological harm, ensuring that services are responsive to survivors' needs, including by providing access to female health-care providers, police officers and counsellors if requested, and ensuring and maintaining the privacy of victims and the confidentiality of their reporting;

(g) Taking and implementing further measures to ensure that all officials, including those in leadership positions, responsible for implementing policies and programmes aimed at preventing violence against women and girls, protecting and assisting victims and investigating and punishing acts of violence receive training on gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment, to raise their awareness of gender-specific needs, as well as of the underlying causes and the short- and long-term impact of violence against women and girls, and training on gender-responsive investigation of crimes of violence against women and girls;

7. *Encourages* States, in efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, to work in partnership with the private sector and civil society, including women's, young women's, youth-led and community-based organizations, organizations of and led by persons with disabilities, faith-based organizations, rural, Indigenous and feminist groups, women human rights defenders, women journalists and media workers and trade, labour and other professional unions, as well as other relevant stakeholders, and to support initiatives undertaken by them, including by allocating adequate financial resources, aimed at promoting gender equality and inclusion and eliminating violence against women and girls;

8. *Also encourages* States to systematically collect, analyse and disseminate data disaggregated by sex, age and other parameters relevant in national contexts, including, where appropriate, administrative data from law enforcement officials, the health sector, the judiciary and other relevant sectors, to consider developing methodologies to collect data on all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, in, inter alia, digital contexts, in order to monitor all forms of such violence, such as data on the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim and geographical location, with the involvement of national statistical offices and, where appropriate, in partnership with other actors, including law enforcement agencies, in order to ensure high-quality, reliable and timely disaggregated data and gender statistics to effectively review and implement laws, policies, strategies and preventive and protective measures, while ensuring and maintaining the privacy and the confidentiality of the victims;

9. *Urges* the international community, including the United Nations system and, as appropriate, regional and subregional organizations, to support national efforts to promote gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in order to enhance international efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls, through, inter alia, official development assistance, other appropriate assistance as well as South-South and triangular cooperation, such as facilitating the sharing of guidelines, methodologies, lessons learned and best practices, taking into account national priorities;

10. *Stresses* the need to continue to take and strengthen the measures necessary to ensure that no individual working within the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds, programmes and entities, is involved in sexual harassment, too often perpetrated against those affected by humanitarian crises, and calling upon the United Nations system to intensify its efforts in this regard to ensure zero tolerance for such violence;

11. *Underscores* the critical importance of protecting all persons affected by humanitarian crises, in particular women and children, from any form of sexual exploitation and abuse, including those perpetrated by humanitarian personnel, welcomes the determination of the Secretary-General to fully implement the United Nations policy of zero tolerance for sexual exploitation and abuse, stresses that victims and survivors should be at the core of such efforts, notes the six core principles relating to sexual exploitation and abuse adopted by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and encourages Member States to make greater efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure that perpetrators are held accountable;

12. *Stresses* that, within the United Nations system, adequate resources should be assigned to UN-Women and other bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes responsible for the promotion of gender equality, the empowerment of women and the human rights of women and girls and to efforts throughout the United Nations system to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment, calls upon the United Nations system to make the necessary support and resources available, and takes note with appreciation in this regard of the contribution of the Spotlight initiative;

13. *Also stresses* the importance of the Secretary-General's Global Database on Violence against Women, expresses its appreciation to all those States that have provided the Database with information regarding, inter alia, their national policies and legal frameworks aimed at eliminating violence against women and girls and supporting

victims of such violence, strongly encourages all States to regularly provide updated information for the Database, and calls upon all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to support States, at their request, in the compilation and regular updating of pertinent information and to raise awareness of the Database among all relevant stakeholders, including civil society;

14. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to intensify their efforts at all levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to better coordinate their work, with a view to increasing effective support for national efforts to prevent and eliminate sexual harassment;

15. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences to submit an annual report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report containing:

(a) Information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on their follow-up activities to implement resolution 75/161 and the present resolution, including on their assistance to States in their efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls;

(b) Information provided by States on their follow-up activities to implement the present resolution;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions, including information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on recent follow-up activities to implement resolutions 73/148 and 75/161 and the present resolution, and urges United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to contribute promptly to that report;

18. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls at its seventy-ninth session under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

RESOLUTION 77/194

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/456, para. 61)[105]

77/194. Trafficking in women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, especially trafficking in women and children, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation and abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and which requires (a) the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes partnerships and measures to prevent such trafficking, to prosecute and punish the traffickers, to effectively identify, protect and support the victims of such trafficking and to intensify international cooperation and other prevention efforts and (b) a criminal justice response proportionate to the serious nature of the offence,

[105] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Recalling all international conventions that deal specifically with or address issues relevant to the problem of trafficking in women and girls, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[106] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[107] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[108] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[109] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[110] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[111] and the Optional Protocol thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[112] and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[113] as well as relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and the Human Rights Council on the issue,

Recognizing the crucial importance of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, which provides an internationally agreed definition of the crime of trafficking in persons aimed at the prevention of trafficking in persons, the protection of victims and the prosecution of the perpetrators,

Recalling the resolution entitled "Launch of the review process of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto",[114] adopted at the tenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, held in Vienna from 12 to 16 October 2020,

Welcoming the 2021 Political Declaration on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,[115] adopted by the General Assembly at its high-level meeting during the seventy-sixth session, in which Member States reiterated, in the strongest possible terms, the importance of strengthening collective action to end trafficking in persons,

Reaffirming the provisions pertaining to trafficking in women and girls contained in the outcome documents of relevant international conferences and summits, in particular the strategic objective on the issue of trafficking in persons contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women[116] and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[117]

Reaffirming also the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[118] and the commitments made by world leaders at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, and in this regard acknowledging that the 2030 Agenda, inter alia, addresses the elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking in persons and sexual and other types of exploitation; the eradication of forced labour, modern slavery, trafficking in persons and child labour; and the ending of abuse, exploitation, trafficking in persons, all forms of violence against and torture of children,

Recognizing the importance of a revitalized global partnership to ensure the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the implementation of the goals and targets related to ending violence against women and girls and

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[106] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[107] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[108] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

[109] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[110] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.

[111] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[112] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[113] Ibid., vol. 96, No. 1342.

[114] CTOC/COP/2020/10, sect. I.A, resolution 10/1.

[115] Resolution 76/7, annex.

[116] *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.

[117] *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.

[118] Resolution 70/1.

trafficking in persons, and in this regard taking note with appreciation of Alliance 8.7, the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children, the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, and the various initiatives of Member States to contribute to the global fight against trafficking in persons,

Recalling the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, adopted at the Intergovernmental Conference in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 December 2018 and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 73/195 of 19 December 2018, which addresses, inter alia, the issue of trafficking in persons in the context of international migration,

Welcoming the convening of the first International Migration Review Forum in May 2022 as the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact, and the adoption of its Progress Declaration,[119]

Welcoming in particular the efforts of States, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to combat trafficking in persons, especially trafficking in women and children, including the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010 and the 2021 Political Declaration on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Recognizing the urgency of combating trafficking in persons in all its forms, including for the purposes of forced or compulsory labour, including of women migrant workers, and in this regard taking note of the adoption by the International Labour Conference on 11 June 2014, at its 103rd session, of the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), and of the Forced Labour (Supplementary Measures) Recommendation, 2014 (No. 203), of the International Labour Organization,

Welcoming, in the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-sixth session,[120] the provisions pertaining to trafficking in women and girls, inter alia, the commitment of Governments to eliminate, prevent and respond to all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spaces, online and offline, such as sexual and gender-based violence, including trafficking in persons and modern slavery and other forms of exploitation; and to support and fund research and analysis to better understand the impacts of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters on women and girls, including in relation to trafficking in persons,

Noting with appreciation the efforts, including of the human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, other relevant special procedure mandate holders of the Council involved in trafficking in persons issues, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and United Nations agencies and other concerned intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their existing mandates, as well as civil society, to address the crime of trafficking in persons, and encouraging them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible,

Noting the relevant contributions of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,[121] and her work in integrating a gender- and age-specific perspective throughout her mandate, in relation to the issue of trafficking in persons,

Acknowledging the inclusion of gender-related crimes in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[122] which entered into force on 1 July 2002,

Bearing in mind the obligations of States to exercise due diligence to prevent trafficking in persons, to investigate, prosecute and punish perpetrators of trafficking in persons and to protect and empower victims, and that not doing so may violate and impair or nullify the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the victims,

Seriously concerned that an increasing number of women and girls are being trafficked within and between regions and States, as well as within and between developed and developing countries, and recognizing that trafficking

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[119] Resolution 76/266, annex.

[120] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2022, Supplement No. 7* (E/2022/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[121] Most recently A/77/170.

[122] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

in persons disproportionately affects women and girls and that men and boys are also victims of trafficking in persons, including for sexual exploitation and for the purpose of organ removal,

Highlighting the need to incorporate a victim-centred and trauma-informed, and gender- and age-sensitive approach, taking into account the specific needs of women and girls with disabilities, into all anti-trafficking efforts, and recognizing that women and girls are particularly vulnerable to trafficking in persons for the purposes of sexual exploitation and abuse, harmful practices, including child, early and forced marriage, as well as forced labour and other forms of exploitation,

Recognizing that pervasive gender inequality, poverty, unemployment, lack of access to quality education, lack of socioeconomic opportunities, gender-based violence, discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, marginalization and persistent demand are among the underlying causes that make women and girls at heightened risk of trafficking in persons,

Recognizing also the need to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures, such as educational, social or cultural measures, including through bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to discourage the demand, which fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, that leads to trafficking in persons,

Recognizing further the role that men and boys can play as agents of change in addressing the harmful impact of gender stereotypes and negative social norms and in preventing sexual and gender-based violence and trafficking in persons, and underlining the need to educate and engage men and boys for this purpose,

Recognizing the heightened risk of trafficking of women and girls in humanitarian crisis situations, including in conflict and post-conflict environments, natural disasters, including those that result from adverse impacts of climate change, pandemic situations, including the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and other emergency environments, as well as the devastating consequences for women and girls in such circumstances, and noting in this regard the Migrants in Countries in Crisis initiative and the Agenda for the Protection of Cross-Border Displaced Persons in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change, resulting from the Nansen Initiative, while recognizing that not all States are participating in them,

Recognizing also that in armed conflict, trafficking in persons, including for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labour, can be prevalent, and in this regard expressing deep concern over its negative impacts on victims of trafficking in persons, and bearing in mind the need to respect the human rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations,

Recognizing further the need to reinforce efforts regarding the provision of relevant documents, such as birth registration documents, in order to lower the risk of women and girls of being subjected to trafficking in persons and to help to identify victims of trafficking in persons,

Recognizing that, despite the progress made, challenges to preventing, prosecuting and combating trafficking in women and girls and to protecting and assisting the victims of trafficking in persons remain and that further efforts should be made to adopt and implement adequate legislation and other measures and to continue improving the collection of reliable data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, nationality, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts and other relevant factors and of statistics that would allow proper analysis of the nature, extent and risk factors of trafficking in women and girls,

Recognizing also that further work is required both to better understand the link between migration and trafficking in persons and to develop more effective responses to eliminate the risk of trafficking in persons in the migration process in order to, inter alia, further efforts to protect women migrant workers from all forms of violence, discrimination, exploitation and abuse,

Concerned about the misuse of information and communications technologies, including the Internet, social media and online platforms, for the purpose of recruiting for the exploitation of the prostitution of others, including for exploiting women and children and for child sexual abuse material, paedophilia and any other forms of sexual exploitation and abuse of children, as well as for child and forced marriage and forced labour, while acknowledging the role that information and communications technologies can play in reducing the risk of sexual abuse and exploitation, including by empowering women and children to report such abuses,

Recognizing the potential of information and communications technologies, including the Internet, social media and online platforms, to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, in particular trafficking in women and children, and to assist victims,

Concerned about the increasing activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from trafficking in persons, especially trafficking in women and children, without regard to dangerous and inhuman conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international standards,

Noting with concern that women and girls are also at heightened risk of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, and in this regard recalling Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/1 of 27 May 2016, entitled "Preventing and combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal", adopted by the Commission at its twenty-fifth session,[123]

Recognizing that victims of trafficking in persons are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and that women and girl victims are often subject to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence, including on the grounds of their gender, age, ethnicity, disability, culture and religion or belief, as well as their origin, and that those forms of discrimination themselves may fuel trafficking in persons,

Noting with concern that some of the demand fostering sexual exploitation, labour exploitation and the illegal removal of organs is met by trafficking in persons, and recognizing that trafficking in persons is fuelled by high profits for traffickers and demand that fosters all forms of exploitation,

Acknowledging that women and girl victims of trafficking in persons, owing to pervasive and persistent gender inequality, are further disadvantaged and marginalized by a general lack of information on or awareness and recognition of their human rights and by the stigmatization often associated with trafficking in persons, as well as by the obstacles they meet in gaining access to accurate information and recourse mechanisms in cases of the violations and abuses of their rights, and that special measures are required for their protection and to increase their awareness,

Taking note of the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law, adopted in March 2021,[124] which expresses the importance of strengthening efforts to prevent, counter and combat trafficking in persons, including by supporting data collection and sharing as appropriate, through relevant technical assistance by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, addressing factors that make people vulnerable to trafficking, detecting and dismantling trafficking networks, including in supply chains, discouraging demand that fosters exploitation leading to trafficking, ending impunity of trafficking networks, conducting financial investigations and using special investigative techniques under the conditions prescribed by domestic law, and protecting victims of trafficking in persons,

Recognizing the importance of implementing a victim-oriented approach to prevent and counter all forms of trafficking in persons for the purpose of exploitation, including the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs, where appropriate, in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,

Reaffirming the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on best practices, of Governments, intergovernmental and civil society organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially trafficking in women and children,

Reaffirming also that global efforts, including international cooperation and technical assistance programmes, to eradicate trafficking in persons, especially trafficking in women and children, demand the strong political commitment, coordinated and coherent efforts and active cooperation of all Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination,

Recognizing that policies and programmes for prevention, protection, rehabilitation and recovery, repatriation and reintegration should be developed through a gender- and age-sensitive, comprehensive and multidisciplinary and

[123] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10* (E/2016/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[124] Resolution 76/181, annex.

multicultural approach, taking into account the needs of victims with concern for their security and privacy and respect for their full enjoyment of human rights and with the involvement of all relevant actors in countries of origin, transit and destination,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,[125] which provides information on measures by States and activities within the United Nations system to tackle trafficking in women and girls;

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the information submitted by Member States and United Nations entities on measures and activities undertaken to combat trafficking in women and girls, and urges Member States and United Nations entities that have not done so to submit the requested information for inclusion in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Takes note* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children;[126]

4. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

5. *Urges* Member States to consider signing and ratifying, and States parties to implement, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto[127] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[128] as well as the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)[129] and the Protocol thereto, the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81),[130] the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97),[131] the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111),[132] the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138),[133] the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143),[134] the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181),[135] the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182),[136] and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189),[137] of the International Labour Organization;

6. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations and other international, regional and subregional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and the media, to fully and effectively implement the relevant provisions of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons[138] and the activities outlined therein;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts of Governments, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental, regional, subregional and non-governmental organizations to prevent and address the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls and invites them to further enhance their efforts and cooperation, including by sharing their knowledge, technical expertise and best practices as widely as possible, and encourages Member States to strengthen

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[125] A/77/292.

[126] A/77/170 and A/HRC/50/33.

[127] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

[128] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[129] Ibid., vol. 39, No. 612.

[130] Ibid., vol. 54, No. 792.

[131] Ibid., vol. 120, No. 1616.

[132] Ibid., vol. 362, No. 5181.

[133] Ibid., vol. 1015, No. 14862.

[134] Ibid., vol. 1120, No. 17426.

[135] Ibid., vol. 2115, No. 36794.

[136] Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37245.

[137] Ibid., vol. 2955, No. 51379.

[138] Resolution 64/293.

cooperation among all relevant actors to identify and disrupt illicit financial flows stemming from trafficking in women and girls;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the outcome document of the Regional Ministerial Conference on Human Trafficking and Smuggling in the Horn of Africa, known as the Khartoum Declaration, and calls for its effective implementation, including through technical cooperation and capacity-building, by the United Nations and the international community;

9. *Encourages* the Commission on the Status of Women to consider addressing the needs of, inter alia, women and girls subjected to trafficking in persons at its sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions, within the framework of the priority themes;

10. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to observe the World Day against Trafficking in Persons, in the context of the need to raise awareness of the situation of victims of trafficking in persons and for the promotion and protection of their rights, and as an opportunity to promote the empowerment of survivors of trafficking in persons;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations system to mainstream, as appropriate, the issue of trafficking in persons, especially trafficking in women and girls, into its broader policies and programmes aimed at addressing economic and social development, human rights, the rule of law, good governance, education, health, humanitarian action and natural disaster and post-conflict reconstruction;

12. *Welcomes* the continued focus given by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to ending violence against women and girls and to increasing women's equal access to economic opportunities, as well as its work on building effective partnerships for the empowerment of women and girls, which will contribute to the efforts to combat trafficking in persons;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to intensify their efforts to prevent and address, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters the trafficking of women and girls for all forms of exploitation and in this regard to put in place or to enhance preventive measures, including legislative and punitive measures to deter exploiters of trafficked persons, as well as ensure their accountability;

14. *Recalls* the basic principles on the right to an effective remedy for victims of trafficking in persons;[139]

15. *Calls upon* Governments to strengthen measures aimed at achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and their equal and full enjoyment of all human rights, women's full, equal and meaningful participation in all spheres of life, free from all forms of discrimination, and their leadership in society, including through education, economic empowerment, gender-sensitive social protection and promoting an increase in the number of women assuming decision-making roles in both the public and private sectors, to take further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness of and inadequate housing for women and girls in order to reduce their risk of being trafficked and, in that regard, to improve the collection and use of disaggregated data and gender statistics to inform such measures;

16. *Also calls upon* Governments to take appropriate preventive measures to address the underlying causes as well as risk factors that increase the risk of trafficking in persons, such as poverty, including the feminization of poverty, gender inequality, gender stereotypes and negative social norms, including discrimination, gender-based violence, violence against women and girls, including impunity for such violence, and the persistent demand that fosters all forms of trafficking and the goods and services produced as a result of trafficking in persons, as well as other factors that encourage the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls for exploitation, including in prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriage, including child, early and forced marriage, forced labour and organ removal, in order to prevent and eliminate such trafficking, including by strengthening existing legislation, with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and punishing perpetrators, including public officials engaging in or facilitating trafficking in persons, through, as appropriate, criminal and civil measures;

17. *Calls upon* Governments, the international community and all other organizations and entities that deal with conflict, post-conflict, disaster and other emergency situations to address the heightened risk of women and girls

[139] A/69/269, annex.

to trafficking in persons and exploitation and associated gender-based violence, inter alia, that perpetuated by traffickers in digital spaces, and to prevent the trafficking of affected women and girls through all such national, regional and international initiatives;

18. *Urges* Governments to devise, enforce and strengthen effective gender-responsive and age-sensitive measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual and economic exploitation, as part of a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy that integrates a human rights perspective, and to draw up, as appropriate, national action plans in this regard;

19. *Also urges* Governments to ensure that the prevention of and responses to trafficking in persons continue to address the specific needs of women and girls and their participation in and contribution to all phases of preventing and responding to trafficking in persons, especially in addressing specific forms of exploitation, such as sexual exploitation, and, in this regard, to ensure women's full, equal and meaningful participation in decision-making at all levels, inter alia, in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of anti-trafficking legislation, policy and programmes, continuing implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Trafficking Protocol thereto, as an essential component of the peacemaking, stabilization and reconstruction process;

20. *Further urges* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental, non-governmental and private sector organizations, to support and allocate resources to strengthen preventive action, in particular, education for all, on human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, self-respect and mutual respect, and campaigns carried out in collaboration with civil society and the private sector to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels, including awareness-raising campaigns against trafficking in persons and slavery, including modern slavery, targeted at groups that are at increased risk of becoming victims of trafficking in persons, as well as at those who may fuel the demand that contributes to trafficking in persons;

21. *Reiterates* the importance of continued coordination among, inter alia, the Special Rapporteurs of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material, and on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication in their activities in the fulfilment of their mandates;

22. *Urges* Governments to strengthen measures to eliminate sex tourism demand, especially for children, through all possible preventive actions, including legislative measures and other relevant policies and programmes, and to develop age-appropriate educational and training programmes and policies aimed at preventing sex tourism and trafficking in persons, giving special emphasis to the protection of young women and children;

23. *Reaffirms* the central role of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the global fight against trafficking in persons, particularly in providing technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, to implement the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to take into consideration the challenges presented by new methods of recruiting victims of trafficking in persons, such as the misuse of the Internet, social media and online platform service providers by criminals, in particular for recruiting children, to take measures to develop targeted awareness-raising campaigns, including for law enforcement, front-line service providers and at-risk industries, to identify the signs of trafficking in persons, and to develop specialized training for law enforcement and criminal justice practitioners;

25. *Encourages* Member States to establish or strengthen national programmes and to engage in bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation, including by forging regional initiatives or plans of action,[140] to address the problem of trafficking in persons through, inter alia, enhancing information-sharing, collecting data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, specific data collection and other technical capacities and mutual legal assistance, coordinating with a view to dismantling criminal networks involved in trafficking women and girls, and combating corruption and the laundering of proceeds derived from trafficking in persons, including by collaborating with financial institutions, and to ensure, as appropriate, that such agreements, programmes and initiatives are particularly responsive to the problem of trafficking in persons as it affects women and girls;

26. *Urges* all Governments to criminalize all forms of trafficking in persons, recognizing its increasing occurrence for the purpose of the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs, as well as for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation and abuse and sex tourism, and to bring to justice and punish the offenders and intermediaries involved, including public officials involved with trafficking in persons, whether local or foreign, through the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with the due process of law, as well as to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in persons in their custody;

27. *Urges* Governments, in accordance with their respective legal systems, to take all appropriate measures, including through policies and legislation, to facilitate access to justice and protection for victims of trafficking in persons that is not conditional on their participation in criminal proceedings, as well as to ensure that victims of trafficking in persons are protected from prosecution or punishment for acts those victims have been compelled to commit as a direct consequence of having been subjected to trafficking in persons and that the victims do not suffer from revictimization as a result of actions taken by Government authorities, and encourages Governments to prevent, within their legal framework and in accordance with national policies, victims of trafficking in persons from being prosecuted or punished as a direct consequence of their illegal entry or residence;

28. *Invites* Governments to consider establishing or strengthening a national mechanism, with the participation of civil society, as appropriate, including non-governmental organizations, such as women's organizations, and survivors of trafficking in persons, to ensure a holistic and coordinated approach to anti-trafficking policies and measures, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, underlying causes, factors and trends in trafficking in persons, especially trafficking in women and girls, and to include data on victims of trafficking in persons disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts;

29. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, to continue to cooperate with international, regional and national mechanisms to combat trafficking in persons, in consultation with Governments, relevant treaty bodies, special procedures, the specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and other sources, including victims of trafficking in persons or their representatives, as appropriate;

30. *Calls upon* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies to take appropriate measures to raise public awareness on addressing the root causes that lead to all forms of exploitation of at-risk women and girls, in particular those in vulnerable situations, to eliminate the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation, including sexual

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[140] Such as the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking, the Action Plan for the Asia-Pacific region of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (see A/C.3/55/3, annex), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Convention Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, the initiatives of the European Union on a comprehensive European policy and programmes on trafficking in human beings, as expressed in the European Union plan on best practices, standards and procedures for combating and preventing trafficking in human beings, adopted in December 2005, the activities of the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution, the Organization of American States Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons, the Agreement on the Cooperation of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Combating Trafficking in Persons, Human Organs and Tissues, the Inter-American Programme for the Prevention and Eradication of Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Smuggling of and Trafficking in Children, and the activities of the International Labour Organization and the International Organization for Migration in this field.

exploitation and forced labour, to publicize the laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue and to emphasize that trafficking is a serious crime;

31. *Calls upon* Governments to allocate resources, as appropriate, to provide access to appropriate programmes for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking in persons, including sexual and reproductive health-care services that include affordable treatment, care and support services for HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections, free of stigma and discrimination, as well as comprehensive information and voluntary counselling, and to take measures to cooperate with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims in ways that protect their privacy and identity;

32. *Also calls upon* Governments to promote the empowerment of women and girls, including survivors of trafficking in persons, in all stages of humanitarian response and to consider providing adequate access to redress;

33. *Encourages* Governments, in line with their obligations under international law, to prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration, including by identifying and supporting victims of trafficking in persons, and to cooperate with relevant stakeholders to undertake or strengthen campaigns to inform migrants, including migrant women and girls, of the risks associated with trafficking in persons;

34. *Strongly urges* Governments to ensure coherence between the laws on and measures responding to migration, labour and trafficking in persons to protect the human rights of migrant women and girls throughout the migration and employment process as well as the repatriation process, when applicable, and to provide effective protection against trafficking in persons;

35. *Invites* States, together with relevant United Nations entities, to undertake further research into the links between migration and trafficking in persons to guide the development of age-sensitive and gender-responsive policies and programmes that address the vulnerability of women and girl migrants;

36. *Encourages* Governments to review and strengthen, as appropriate, the enforcement of relevant labour and other laws within their territories or jurisdictions that are aimed at, or have the effect of, requiring business enterprises, including recruitment agencies, to prevent and combat trafficking in persons in supply chains, and to periodically assess the adequacy of such laws and address any gaps;

37. *Invites* the business sector to consider the adoption of ethical codes of conduct to ensure decent work and to prevent any form of exploitative practices that foster trafficking in persons;

38. *Encourages* Governments to intensify collaboration with non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, to develop and implement gender-responsive and age-sensitive programmes for effective counselling, training and reintegration into society of victims of trafficking in persons and programmes that provide shelter and helplines to victims or potential victims in ways that protect their privacy and identity;

39. *Urges* Governments to provide or strengthen training for, and to raise awareness among, law enforcement, judicial, immigration and other relevant officials on the prevention and combating of trafficking in persons, including the sexual exploitation of women and girls, and including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in this regard calls upon Governments to ensure that the treatment of victims of trafficking in persons, especially by law enforcement officials, immigration officers, consular officials, social workers, health service providers and other first response officials, is victim-centred and trauma-informed and conducted with full respect for the human rights of those victims and with gender and age sensitivity and observes the principles of non-discrimination, including the prohibition of any form of discrimination;

40. *Invites* Member States to provide training for law enforcement and border control officials, as well as medical personnel, in identifying potential cases of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal;

41. *Invites* Governments to take steps to ensure that criminal justice procedures and witness protection programmes are responsive to the particular situation of women and girls subjected to trafficking, and that they are supported and assisted, as appropriate, in making complaints to the police or other authorities, without fear and with due regard for the protection of their privacy and their identity, and are available, when required, to the criminal justice system, and to ensure that during this time they have access to gender- and age-sensitive protection and, as appropriate, social, medical, financial and legal assistance, including the possibility of obtaining compensation for damages suffered;

42. *Emphasizes* the need to establish firewalls between immigration checks and labour inspections, and/or to ensure that labour inspections are conducted in such a way that does not put potential victims of trafficking in fear of immigration authorities or offences;

43. *Invites* Governments to intensify efforts aimed at the speedy disposition of cases of trafficking in persons and, in cooperation with, inter alia, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to devise, enforce and strengthen systems and mechanisms for combating trafficking in persons;

44. *Also invites* Governments to encourage media providers, including Internet, social media and online platform service providers, to adopt or strengthen self-regulatory measures to promote the responsible use of media, particularly the Internet, with a view to eliminating the exploitation of women and children, in particular girls, which could foster trafficking in persons;

45. *Encourages* Governments to develop and implement strategies that promote safe access to media and to information and communications technologies in order to prevent and eradicate trafficking in women and girls, including increasing women's and girls' digital literacy and access to information;

46. *Invites* the business sector, in particular the tourism, travel and telecommunications industries, relevant recruitment agencies and mass media organizations, to cooperate with Governments in eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, including through the dissemination by the media of information regarding the dangers of trafficking in persons, the means used by traffickers, the rights of persons subjected to trafficking in persons and the services available to them;

47. *Stresses* the need for the systematic collection of disaggregated data including, as appropriate, in humanitarian responses, in line with do-no-harm principles, and in this regard takes note of the publication of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the development of common methodologies and internationally defined indicators to make it possible to develop relevant and comparable figures, and encourages Governments to enhance information-sharing and data-collection capacity as a way of promoting cooperation to combat trafficking in persons;

48. *Invites* Governments, United Nations bodies, agencies and special mechanisms, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue collaborative and joint research and studies on trafficking in women and girls that can serve as a basis for policy formulation or change;

49. *Invites* Governments, with the support of the United Nations, when necessary, and other intergovernmental organizations, taking into account best practices, to formulate training manuals and other informational materials and to provide training for law enforcement, judicial and other relevant officials and medical and support personnel, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of women and girl victims of trafficking in persons;

50. *Calls upon* Governments, and encourages relevant intergovernmental bodies and international organizations, to ensure that military, peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed in conflict, post-conflict and other emergency situations are provided with training on conduct that does not promote, facilitate or exploit trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual exploitation, and to raise the awareness of such personnel about the potential risks that victims of conflict and other emergency situations, including natural disasters, face of being subjected to trafficking in persons;

51. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[141] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[142] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to include information and disaggregated statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to the respective committees, as applicable;

[141] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[142] Ibid.

52. *Invites* States to continue to contribute to the United Nations voluntary trust fund on contemporary forms of slavery and to the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children;

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report that compiles information on successful interventions and strategies, as well as the gaps, in addressing the gender dimensions of the problem of trafficking in persons and provides recommendations on the strengthening of human rights-based, victim-centred and gender- and age-sensitive approaches within comprehensive, multidimensional, multicultural and balanced efforts to address trafficking in persons, including in the prosecution of traffickers and protection of victims, and including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

RESOLUTION 77/195

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/456, para. 61)[143]

77/195. Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/117 of 9 December 1998, 56/128 of 19 December 2001, 67/146 of 20 December 2012, 68/146 of 18 December 2013, 69/150 of 18 December 2014, 71/168 of 19 December 2016, 73/149 of 17 December 2018 and 75/160 of 16 December 2020, Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 51/2 of 9 March 2007,[144] 52/2 of 7 March 2008[145] and 54/7 of 12 March 2010[146] and Human Rights Council resolutions 27/22 of 26 September 2014,[147] 32/21 of 1 July 2016,[148] 38/6 of 2 July 2018,[149] 44/16 of 17 July 2020[150] and 50/16 of 8 July 2022[151] and all relevant agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[152]

Reaffirming also that the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[153] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[154] and all relevant conventions, together with the optional protocols thereto, as appropriate, constitute an important contribution to the legal framework for the protection and promotion of the human rights of women and girls,

Reaffirming further the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[155] which reaffirms that all human rights, including the right to development, are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, the Beijing

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[143] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[144] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 7* (E/2007/27), chap. I, sect. D.

[145] Ibid., 2008, *Supplement No. 7* (E/2008/27), chap. I, sect. D.

[146] Ibid., 2010, *Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and E/2010/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[147] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[148] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[149] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/73/53), chap. VI, sect. A.

[150] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/75/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[151] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. VIII, sect. A.

[152] Resolution 217 A (III).

[153] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[154] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[155] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Declaration[156] and Platform for Action,[157] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[158] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[159] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[160] and their 5-, 10-, 15- and 20-year reviews, as well as the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[161] and the commitments relevant to women and girls made at the 2005 World Summit[162] and reiterated in Assembly resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals", and those made in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",[163]

Recognizing the role of local, national, regional, subregional and international instruments and mechanisms in the prevention and elimination of female genital mutilation, where they exist,

Recalling the undertakings and commitments on ending female genital mutilation contained in Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, adopted in Maputo on 11 July 2003, which mark a significant milestone towards the elimination and ending of female genital mutilation,

Recalling also the decision of the African Union, adopted in Malabo on 1 July 2011, to support the adoption by the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session of a resolution banning female genital mutilation,

Recognizing that female genital mutilation constitutes irreparable, irreversible harm and an act of violence against women and girls that impairs and undermines the enjoyment of their human rights, and recognizing also that it affects many women and girls who are at risk of being subjected to the practice throughout the world, which is an impediment to the full achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

Reaffirming that female genital mutilation is a harmful practice and a serious and life-threatening form of violence, constituting a serious threat to the dignity, health and well-being of women and girls, including their physical, mental, sexual and reproductive, and maternal health, as well as to the health of children, including infants and adolescents, that it has no documented health benefits, that it may give rise to possible adverse obstetric, prenatal and post-partum outcomes and may increase vulnerability to hepatitis C, tetanus, sepsis, urine retention and ulceration, as well as to fatal consequences for the mother and child, and that the elimination of this harmful practice can be achieved as a result of a comprehensive movement that involves all public and private stakeholders in society, including women and men, girls and boys, families, communities, religious leaders and local community and traditional leaders,

Recognizing that female genital mutilation is inherently linked to deep-rooted harmful stereotypes, negative social norms, perceptions and customs on the part of both women and men that threaten the physical and psychological integrity of women and girls, and that are obstacles to their full enjoyment of human rights, and acknowledging in this regard that awareness-raising is critical,

Recognizing also that female genital mutilation is exacerbated in humanitarian situations owing to several factors, including displacement or forced displacement and breakdown of law and State authority or social support networks, including lack of essential specialized and adequate protection and health-care services,

Deeply concerned that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has disrupted prevention programmes aimed at eliminating female genital mutilation and other harmful practices, increased the vulnerability of girls and

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[156] *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, annex I.

[157] Ibid., annex II.

[158] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[159] *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.

[160] *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, annex II.

[161] Resolution 55/2.

[162] See resolution 60/1.

[163] Resolution 70/1.

women, especially those at risk of undergoing female genital mutilation, and further exacerbated existing gender inequality, economic disparities and health risks faced by women and girls,

Welcoming the increased national, regional and international efforts and the political commitment at the highest levels, which are critical to successfully eradicating female genital mutilation,

Deeply concerned that, despite the national, regional and international efforts, the practice of female genital mutilation persists in all parts of the world, has interlinkages with other harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage, and remains underreported, particularly at the local level, and that the use of new methods, such as its medicalization and cross-border practice, is increasing,

Recognizing that decades of efforts to eliminate female genital mutilation are undermined by cross-border and transnational practices, which occur when girls or women are taken across national borders to countries that have not outlawed this harmful practice or do not enforce existing criminal laws,

Recognizing also that negative discriminatory and stereotypical attitudes and behaviours, on the part of both women and men, have direct implications for the status and treatment of women and girls, and that such negative stereotypes impede the implementation of legislative and normative frameworks that guarantee gender equality and prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex,

Stressing that men and boys play an important role in the acceleration of progress in preventing and eliminating harmful practices such as female genital mutilation by being agents of change,

Recognizing that the campaign of the Secretary-General entitled "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" and the Global Database on Violence against Women have contributed to addressing the elimination of female genital mutilation,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations system to end female genital mutilation, in particular the commitment of 10 United Nations entities,[164] announced in their joint inter-agency statement of 27 February 2008 on eliminating female genital mutilation, and taking note with appreciation of the Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Delivering the Global Promise to End Female Genital Mutilation by 2030 of the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund, to accelerate the elimination of the practice,

Commending the continued efforts and actions undertaken by States, individually and collectively, regional organizations and United Nations agencies for the elimination of female genital mutilation, as well as the implementation of its resolution 75/160,

Noting with appreciation the recent progress made globally towards ending female genital mutilation, which has become less common in countries where it was once universal and in countries where it occurred in only a few communities, while expressing deep concern that, despite this global trend, progress is uneven and not fast enough to achieve the target of eliminating female genital mutilation by 2030 and the promise to leave no one behind, and that the COVID-19 pandemic increased women's and girls' vulnerability to female genital mutilation,

Underscoring the importance of eliminating female genital mutilation as a contribution to the implementation of the range of Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 5.3,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[165]

Deeply concerned that a tremendous gap in resources continues to exist and that the shortfall in funding has severely limited the scope and pace of programmes and activities for the elimination of female genital mutilation,

1. *Stresses* that the gender equality and empowerment of women and girls is key to breaking the cycle of discrimination and violence and for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including sexual and reproductive health, and calls

[164] Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, United Nations Development Programme, Economic Commission for Africa, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Population Fund, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Fund for Women and World Health Organization.

[165] A/77/312.

upon States parties to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as their commitments to implementing the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[166] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", and of the special session of the General Assembly on children;[167]

2. *Condemns* all forms of violence and harmful practices that affect women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation, and urges States to take all necessary measures in accordance with their obligations under applicable international human rights law, including legislative and policy measures, to prohibit female genital mutilation and to protect women and girls, including from cross-border and other affected communities;

3. *Calls upon* States to place a stronger focus on the development and implementation of comprehensive prevention strategies, including the intensification of educational campaigns, awareness-raising and formal and non-formal education and training in order to promote the direct engagement of girls and boys, women and men and to ensure that all key actors, including government officials, law enforcement and judicial personnel, immigration officials, parliamentarians, health-care providers, practitioners, civil society, the private sector, community and religious leaders, teachers, employers, media professionals and those directly working with girls, as well as parents, legal guardians, families and communities, work to eliminate attitudes and harmful practices, in particular female genital mutilation, that negatively affect women and girls, and emphasizes the importance of adopting a non-stigmatization approach in all prevention interventions;

4. *Also calls upon* States to develop information and awareness-raising campaigns and programmes to systematically reach and engage the general public, especially relevant professionals, in particular schoolteachers, families, communities, civil society representatives, including women's and girl-led organizations and religious and traditional leaders, including through the traditional and non-traditional media, featuring television and radio discussions and information and communications technology, about the harmful effects of female genital mutilation and the fact that this practice still exists and about national and international levels of support for the elimination of female genital mutilation, with a view to helping to change existing negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours that condone and justify gender inequality, all forms of violence against women and girls and harmful practices, including female genital mutilation;

5. *Further calls upon* States to provide the resources necessary to strengthen advocacy and awareness-raising programmes, to mobilize girls and women and boys and men to take an active part in developing preventive and elimination programmes to address harmful practices, especially female genital mutilation, to engage families, local community and religious leaders, educational institutions, the media and civil society and to provide increased financial support to efforts at all levels to end discriminatory social norms and practices, and calls upon the international community to support States in these efforts;

6. *Encourages* States to ensure that female genital mutilation-related prevention, protection and care services are mainstreamed in humanitarian and emergency preparedness and response plans and integrated in coordination mechanisms and remote service delivery as part of the continuum of essential services, including health-care services for all women and girls across the humanitarian-development nexus, with particular attention to the protection needs of women and girls living in cross-border communities;

7. *Urges* States to complement punitive measures with awareness-raising and educational activities designed to promote a process of consensus towards the elimination of female genital mutilation, and also urges States to protect and support women and girls who have been subjected to female genital mutilation and those who are at risk in order to assist them, including by developing social, legal and psychological support services and care and appropriate remedies, and to ensure access to health-care services, including for sexual and reproductive health, in order to improve their health and well-being;

8. *Also urges* States to condemn all harmful practices that affect women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation, whether committed within or outside a medical institution, to take all measures necessary, including through educational campaigns and by enacting and enforcing legislation to prohibit female genital mutilation, to

[166] Resolution 48/104.

[167] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

protect women and girls from this act of violence, to hold perpetrators to account and to put in place adequate accountability mechanisms at the national and local levels, where applicable, in order to monitor progress;

9. *Calls upon* States to address the medicalization of female genital mutilation and to encourage professional associations and trade unions of health service providers to adopt internal disciplinary rules prohibiting their members from engaging in the harmful practice of female genital mutilation;

10. *Urges* States to promote gender-sensitive, empowering educational processes, sensitive to the needs of women and girls, by reviewing and revising, as appropriate, school curricula, educational materials and teacher-training programmes and elaborating policies and programmes of zero tolerance of violence against girls or of harmful practices, including female genital mutilation, placing special emphasis on education about the harmful effects of female genital mutilation, and to further integrate a comprehensive understanding of the causes and consequences of gender-based violence and discrimination against women and girls into education and training curricula at all levels;

11. *Also urges* States to ensure the protection of, and provision of support to, women and girls subjected to or at risk of female genital mutilation, including cross-border and transnational female genital mutilation, and to address the underlying systemic and structural causes in which this harmful practice is rooted by establishing regional, national and multisectoral prevention and response strategies that respond to the needs of women and girls, including supportive legislation and policies, programmes and budgetary measures based on integrated, coordinated and collective approaches combining political commitment, civil society engagement and accountability at the regional, national, local and community levels;

12. *Further urges* States to ensure that the protection of and provision of support to women and girls subject to, or at risk of, female genital mutilation are an integral part of policies and programmes that address the practice, and to provide women and girls with coordinated, specialized, accessible and quality multisectoral prevention and response, including education, as well as legal, psychological, health-care and social services, provided by qualified personnel, consistent with the guidelines of medical ethics;

13. *Urges* States to put in place effective regional cooperation and coordination mechanisms to prevent and eliminate cross-border and transnational female genital mutilation and to ensure their sustainability and effectiveness by providing them with adequate financial resources and capacities so that they can oversee the implementation of comprehensive and multisectoral regional, national and subnational plans, strategies, policies and programmes, with the active engagement and participation of relevant actors, including international organizations, regional and international networks of parliamentarians, national human rights institutions, professional associations, including of health-care providers, civil society organizations, including human rights groups, women's human rights organizations and youth-led organizations, as well as traditional and religious leaders and faith-based organizations, men and boys, parents, legal guardians and family members, victims and survivors;

14. *Calls upon* States to ensure that national action plans and strategies on the elimination of female genital mutilation are comprehensive and multidisciplinary in scope and that they are adequately financed, include projected timelines for goals and incorporate clear targets and indicators for the effective monitoring, impact assessment and coordination of programmes among all relevant stakeholders and promote their participation, including the participation of affected women and girls, practising communities and non-governmental organizations, in the development, implementation and evaluation of such plans and strategies;

15. *Urges* States to take, within the general framework of integration policies and in consultation with affected communities, effective and specific targeted measures for refugee, asylum-seeker, migrant and internally displaced women and girls, their families and their communities in order to protect women and girls everywhere from female genital mutilation, including when the practice occurs outside the country of residence;

16. *Also urges* States to pursue a comprehensive, culturally sensitive, systematic approach that incorporates a social perspective and is based on human rights and gender equality in providing education and training to families, local community leaders and members of all professions relevant to the protection and empowerment of women and girls in order to increase awareness of and commitment to the elimination of female genital mutilation;

17. *Further urges* States to identify and allocate sufficient resources to the implementation of policies and programmes and legislative frameworks aimed at eliminating female genital mutilation, in particular measures involving information and communications technologies to facilitate learning and knowledge-sharing;

18. *Calls upon* States to develop, support and implement comprehensive and integrated strategies and approaches for the prevention and elimination of female genital mutilation, including, where appropriate, by adopting or amending legislation to criminalize the practice and the training of social workers, medical personnel, community and religious leaders, humanitarian workers and other relevant professionals, and to ensure that they provide competent, supportive services and care to all women and girls who are at risk of or who have undergone female genital mutilation and encourage them to report to the appropriate authorities cases in which they believe that women or girls are at risk;

19. *Also calls upon* States to harmonize legislation and policies between States where cross-border and transnational female genital mutilation occurs, in addition to supporting the implementation of laws criminalizing female genital mutilation, increasing cooperation between States and civil society at national borders, conducting media campaigns promoting cross-border prevention among vulnerable border communities and introducing enhanced monitoring systems across borders on female genital mutilation cases;

20. *Further calls upon* States to support, as part of a comprehensive approach to eliminate female genital mutilation, programmes that engage local community practitioners of female genital mutilation in community-based initiatives for the elimination of the practice, including, where relevant, the identification and the provision by communities of alternative livelihoods for them;

21. *Calls upon* the international community, the relevant United Nations entities and civil society and international financial institutions to continue to actively support, through the allocation of increased financial resources and technical assistance, targeted comprehensive programmes that address the needs and priorities of women and girls at risk of or subjected to female genital mutilation;

22. *Calls upon* the international community and all Member States to strongly support, including through increased financial support, organizations and programmes that support women and girls affected by or at risk of female genital mutilation, including the fourth phase of the Joint Programme on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation: Delivering the Global Promise to End Female Genital Mutilation by 2030 of the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Children's Fund, which will run until 2030, as well as national programmes focused on the elimination of female genital mutilation;

23. *Stresses* that progress has been made in eliminating female genital mutilation in a number of countries using a common coordinated approach that promotes positive social change at the community, national, regional and international levels, and recalls the goal set out in the United Nations inter-agency statement that female genital mutilation is to be eliminated within a generation, with some of the main achievements being obtained by 2030, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals;

24. *Encourages* men and boys to take an active part and to become strategic partners of women and girls and their allies in efforts, including through intergenerational dialogue, to eliminate violence, discrimination and harmful practices against women and girls, in particular female genital mutilation, through networks, peer programmes, information campaigns and training programmes;

25. *Calls upon* States to engage key stakeholders, in a coordinated manner, including various sectors of government and civil society organizations, along with the support, upon request, of United Nations entities, in developing a multidisciplinary approach to both preventing and responding to female genital mutilation and to adopt laws and policies, where appropriate, providing high-quality, multisectoral interventions for girls and women who have been subject to female genital mutilation, as well as robust prevention strategies, taking into consideration those girls and women who are most vulnerable;

26. *Calls upon* States, the United Nations system, civil society and all stakeholders to continue to observe 6 February as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation and to use the day to enhance awareness-raising campaigns and to take concrete actions against female genital mutilation;

27. *Calls upon* States to improve the collection and analysis of quantitative and qualitative disaggregated data, where appropriate, and to collaborate with existing data collection systems, which are crucial for evidence-based legal and policy development, programme design and implementation and the monitoring of the elimination of female genital mutilation;

28. *Also calls upon* States to develop unified methods and standards for the collection of data on female genital mutilation, which is underdocumented and underreported, particularly in humanitarian and emergency situations, to

develop additional indicators to effectively measure progress in eliminating this practice and to reinforce the sharing of good practices relating to the prevention and elimination of female genital mutilation at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

29. *Urges* the international community to fulfil its commitment in supporting developing countries in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data, while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress, in order, inter alia, to inform policy and programming, as well as to monitor progress in the elimination of female genital mutilation;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World Health Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, individually and collectively, take into account the protection and promotion of the rights of women and girls against female genital mutilation in their country programmes, as appropriate and in accordance with national priorities, in order to further strengthen their efforts in this regard;

31. *Renews its request* to the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-ninth session, an in-depth, multidisciplinary, evidence-based report, with accurate and updated data, an analysis of root causes, progress made to date, challenges and needs and action-oriented recommendations for eliminating this practice, on the basis of updated information provided by Member States, relevant actors of the United Nations system working on the issue and other relevant stakeholders.

RESOLUTION 77/196

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/456, para. 61)[168]

77/196. Intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 62/138 of 18 December 2007, 63/158 of 18 December 2008, 65/188 of 21 December 2010 and 67/147 of 20 December 2012 on supporting efforts to end obstetric fistula and its resolutions 69/148 of 18 December 2014, 71/169 of 19 December 2016, 73/147 of 17 December 2018 and 75/159 of 16 December 2020 on the intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[169] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[170] the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[171] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[172] and their reviews, and the international

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[168] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

[169] *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.

[170] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[171] *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.

[172] *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, annex II.

commitments in the field of social development and to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls made at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance[173] and the 2005 World Summit,[174] as well as those made in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",[175]

Reaffirming also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[176] as well as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[177] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[178] recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[179] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[180] and urging States that have not done so to consider, as a matter of priority, signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions and the optional protocols thereto,[181]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[182] and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing that intensified national ownership and leadership, political commitment and scaled-up national capacity are urgently needed to accelerate progress towards the elimination of fistula, including by implementing strategies to prevent new cases and treating all existing cases with special attention paid to countries with the highest maternal mortality and morbidity levels,

Stressing the interlinkages between poverty, malnutrition, lack of or inadequate or inaccessible health-care services, early childbearing, child, early and forced marriage, violence against young women and girls, sociocultural barriers, marginalization, illiteracy and gender inequality as root causes of obstetric fistula, and that poverty remains the main social risk factor,

Stressing also that obstetric fistula can be a cause of devastating lifelong morbidity if left untreated, with severe medical, social, psychological and economic consequences, that approximately 90 per cent of women who develop fistula deliver stillborn babies and that misperceptions about its cause often result in stigma and ostracism,

Recognizing that the difficult socioeconomic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have resulted in the acceleration of the feminization of poverty,

Recognizing also that early childbearing increases the risk of complications during pregnancy and delivery and entails a much higher risk of maternal mortality and morbidity, and deeply concerned that early childbearing and limited access to the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, including sexual and reproductive health, specifically timely access to high-quality emergency obstetric care, cause high levels of obstetric fistula and other maternal morbidities, as well as maternal mortality,

Recognizing further that adolescent girls, in particular those who live in poverty or who are marginalized, are at particular risk of maternal death and morbidity, including obstetric fistula, and concerned that the leading cause of death among girls aged 15 to 19 in many low- and middle-income countries is complications from pregnancy and childbirth and that women aged 30 and older are at increased risk of developing complications and of dying during childbirth,

Recognizing that lack of access to sexual and reproductive health, especially emergency obstetric, services, including in humanitarian settings, remains among the leading causes of obstetric fistula, leading to ill health and

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[173] See A/CONF.189/12 and A/CONF.189/12/Corr.1, chap. I.

[174] Resolution 60/1.

[175] Resolution 70/1.

[176] Resolution 217 A (III).

[177] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[178] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[179] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[180] Ibid.

[181] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2131, No. 20378; ibid., vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531; ibid., vol. 1642, No. 14668; and ibid., vol. 2922, No. 14531.

[182] A/77/229.

death for women and girls of childbearing age in many regions of the world, and that a dramatic and sustainable scaling-up of quality treatment and health-care services, including high-quality emergency obstetric services, and of the number of trained, competent fistula surgeons and midwives is needed to significantly reduce maternal and newborn mortality and to eradicate obstetric fistula,

Noting that a human rights-based approach to eliminating obstetric fistula and efforts to eliminate obstetric fistula should be underpinned by, inter alia, accountability, participation, transparency, empowerment, sustainability, non-discrimination and international cooperation,

Deeply concerned about discrimination against and marginalization of women and girls, in particular those who are facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, which often result in reduced access to education and nutrition, compromising their physical and mental health and well-being and the enjoyment of their human rights and the opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence compared with boys, and often in their being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and abuse, violence and harmful practices, which can increase the risk of obstetric fistula,

Deeply concerned also about the situation of women and girls living with or recovering from obstetric fistula, who are often neglected and stigmatized, which may lead to negative effects on their mental health, resulting in depression and suicide, and are driven deeper into poverty and marginalization,

Recognizing the need to raise awareness among men and adolescent boys and, in this context, to fully engage men and community leaders as strategic partners and allies in the efforts to address and eliminate obstetric fistula,

Welcoming the contribution by Member States, the international community, the private sector and civil society to the global Campaign to End Fistula led by the United Nations Population Fund, bearing in mind that a people-centred approach to social and economic development is fundamental for protecting and empowering individuals and communities,

Deeply concerned that, as the global Campaign to End Fistula completes its nineteenth anniversary, while some progress has been made, significant challenges remain that require the intensification of efforts at all levels to end obstetric fistula,

Deeply concerned also about the insufficient resources for addressing obstetric fistula in high-burden countries, compounded by the low levels of development assistance for maternal and newborn health, which have declined in recent years, and the substantial need for additional resources and support for the global Campaign to End Fistula and for national and regional initiatives dedicated to improving maternal health and eliminating obstetric fistula,

Noting the Secretary-General's revised Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016–2030), undertaken by a broad coalition of partners, in support of national plans and strategies that aim for the highest attainable standards of health and well-being, physical, mental and social, at every age, ending maternal and newborn mortality, which is preventable, and noting that this can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Welcoming the various national, regional and international initiatives on all the Sustainable Development Goals and the global Campaign to End Fistula, including those undertaken bilaterally and through South-South cooperation, in support of national plans and strategies in sectors such as health, education, finance, gender equality, energy, water and sanitation, poverty eradication and nutrition as a way to reduce the number of maternal, newborn and under-5 child deaths,

Welcoming also ongoing partnerships between stakeholders at all levels to address the multifaceted determinants of maternal, newborn and child health, in close coordination with Member States, based on their needs and priorities, and in this regard welcoming further the commitments to accelerate progress on the health-related Sustainable Development Goals by 2030,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by Member States to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, and recognizes that the efforts to end obstetric fistula within a decade will contribute to the achievement of the Goals by 2030;

2. *Stresses* the need to address the interlinkages between poverty, lack of or inadequate education for women and girls, gender inequality, lack of or inadequate access to health-care services, including sexual and reproductive

health-care services, early childbearing and child, early and forced marriage as root causes of obstetric fistula, and calls upon States, in collaboration with the international community, to take accelerated action to address the situation;

3. *Calls upon* States to take all measures necessary to ensure the right of women and girls to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, including sexual and reproductive health, and reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Platform for Action[183] and the outcome documents of their review conferences, and to develop sustainable health systems and social services, with a view to ensuring universal access to such systems and services without discrimination, while paying special attention to adequate food and nutrition, water and sanitation, family planning information, increasing women's empowerment, knowledge and awareness and ensuring equitable access to high-quality appropriate prenatal and delivery care for the prevention of obstetric fistula and the reduction of health inequities, as well as postnatal care for the detection and early management of fistula cases;

4. *Also calls upon* States to ensure equitable coverage and timely access, by means of national plans, policies and programmes, to health-care services, in particular emergency obstetric and newborn care, skilled birth attendance, obstetric fistula treatment and family planning, that are financially affordable, accessible and culturally sensitive, especially in rural and the most-remote areas;

5. *Further calls upon* States to ensure the right to education of good quality for women and girls, on an equal basis with men and boys, and to ensure that they complete a full course of primary education, and to renew their efforts to improve and expand girls' and women's education at all levels, including at the secondary and higher levels, including age-appropriate sex education, as well as vocational education and technical training, in order to, inter alia, achieve gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls and poverty eradication;

6. *Urges* States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage, including in rural and remote areas, is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses and, in addition, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage, where necessary;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to provide intensified technical and financial support, in particular to high-burden countries, to accelerate progress towards the elimination of obstetric fistula within a decade, which can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and leave no one behind;

8. *Urges* the international community to provide and enhance the necessary resources and capacity-building, upon the request of Member States, in order to treat fistula cases through surgery, leading to the reintegration of affected women and girls into their communities, with appropriate psychosocial, medical and economic support to restore their well-being and dignity;

9. *Urges* multilateral donors, international financial institutions and regional development banks in the public and private sectors, within their respective mandates, to review and implement policies to support national efforts and institutional capacity-building to end obstetric fistula and to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reach young women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas and the poorest urban areas, as well as to ensure that needed funding is increased, predictable and sustained;

10. *Calls upon* the international community to support the activities of the United Nations Population Fund and other partners, including the World Health Organization, in the global Campaign to End Fistula in establishing and financing regional fistula treatment and training centres and, where necessary, national centres, by identifying and supporting health facilities that have the potential to serve as centres for treatment, training and convalescent care;

11. *Calls upon* States to accelerate progress to improve maternal health by addressing sexual and reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, through the provision of family planning, prenatal care, skilled attendance at birth, including midwives, emergency obstetric and newborn care, postnatal care and methods of prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and infections, such as HIV, within strengthened health-care systems that provide universal access to affordable, equitable and high-quality integrated

[183] *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, annex II.

health-care services and include community-based preventive and clinical care, towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

12. *Urges* the international community to address the shortage and inequitable distribution of doctors, surgeons, midwives, nurses and other health-care workers trained in life-saving obstetric care, and of space and supplies, which limit the capacity of most fistula centres;

13. *Commends* the commemoration by the international community of 23 May as the International Day to End Obstetric Fistula and the decision to continue to use the International Day each year to significantly raise awareness, intensify actions and mobilize support towards ending obstetric fistula;

14. *Calls upon* States and/or the relevant funds and programmes, organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and invites the international financial institutions and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector, to end obstetric fistula within a decade by:

(a) Redoubling their efforts to meet the internationally agreed goal of improving maternal health by making maternal health-care services and obstetric fistula treatment geographically and financially accessible, including by ensuring universal access to skilled attendance at birth and timely access to high-quality emergency obstetric care and family planning, as well as appropriate prenatal and postnatal care;

(b) Making greater investments in strengthening health systems, ensuring adequately trained and skilled human resources, especially midwives, obstetricians, gynaecologists and doctors, and providing support for the development and maintenance of infrastructure, as well as investments in referral mechanisms, equipment and supply chains, to improve maternal and newborn health-care services and ensure that women and girls have access to the full continuum of care, with functional quality control and monitoring mechanisms in place for all areas of service delivery;

(c) Supporting the training of doctors and surgeons, nurses and other health-care workers in life-saving obstetric care, especially midwives, who are the front-line workers in the fight to prevent obstetric fistula and maternal and newborn mortality, including training on fistula prevention, treatment and care as a standard element of the training curricula of health professionals;

(d) Ensuring universal access through national policies, plans and programmes that make maternal and newborn health-care services, particularly family planning, skilled attendance at birth, emergency obstetric and newborn care and obstetric fistula treatment, financially accessible and affordable, including in rural and remote areas and among the poorest women and girls through, where appropriate, the establishment and distribution of health-care facilities and trained medical personnel, collaboration with the transport sector for affordable transport options, support for developing and maintaining infrastructure to improve maternal and newborn health-care services and to strengthen the capacity for surgery, the promotion of and support for community-based solutions and the provision of incentives and other means to secure the presence in rural and remote areas of qualified health-care professionals who are able to perform interventions to prevent obstetric fistula;

(e) Developing, implementing, following up on and supporting national and international prevention, care and treatment and socioeconomic reintegration and support strategies, policies and plans to eliminate obstetric fistula within a decade by developing further multisectoral, multidisciplinary, comprehensive and integrated action plans in order to bring about lasting solutions and put an end to maternal mortality and morbidity and obstetric fistula, which is preventable and treatable, including by ensuring access to affordable, accessible, comprehensive, high-quality maternal health-care services, and, within countries, incorporating into all sectors of national budgets policy and programmatic approaches to address inequities and reach poor women and girls and those in vulnerable situations;

(f) Establishing or strengthening, as appropriate, a national task force for obstetric fistula, with a lead governmental entity, to enhance national coordination and improve partner collaboration to end obstetric fistula, including partnering with in-country efforts, to increase surgical capacity and to promote universal access to essential and life-saving surgery;

(g) Strengthening the capacity of health-care systems, in particular public health systems, to provide the essential services needed to prevent obstetric fistula and to treat existing cases by increasing national budgets for health, ensuring that adequate funds are allocated to reproductive health, including for obstetric fistula, ensuring access to fistula treatment through increased availability of trained, expert fistula surgeons and permanent, holistic fistula

services integrated into strategically selected hospitals, thereby addressing the significant backlog of women and girls awaiting surgical repair of fistula, and encouraging communication among fistula centres to facilitate training, research, advocacy and fundraising and the application of relevant medical standards, including consideration of the use of the World Health Organization manual entitled *Obstetric Fistula: Guiding Principles for Clinical Management and Programme Development*, which provides background information and principles for developing fistula prevention and treatment programmes, as appropriate;

(h) Mobilizing funding to provide free or adequately subsidized maternal health-care and obstetric fistula repair and treatment services, including by encouraging networking among providers and the sharing of new treatment techniques and protocols to protect women's and children's well-being and survival and to prevent the recurrence of subsequent fistulas by making post-surgery follow-up and the tracking of fistula patients a routine and key component of all fistula programmes, and also to ensure access to elective caesarean sections for fistula survivors who become pregnant again in order to prevent fistula recurrence and to increase the chances of survival of mother and baby in all subsequent pregnancies;

(i) Increasing national budgets and harnessing domestic resources for health, ensuring that adequate funds are allocated to prevent obstetric fistula and to treat existing cases, and for strengthening the capacity of health-care systems to provide the essential services needed in this regard;

(j) Ensuring that all women and girls who have undergone fistula treatment, including the forgotten women and girls whose conditions are deemed incurable or inoperable, are provided with and have access to comprehensive health-care services, holistic social integration services and careful follow-up, including counselling, education, family planning, socioeconomic empowerment, social protection and psychosocial services, for as long as needed, through, inter alia, skills development, family and community support and income-generating activities, so that they can overcome abandonment, stigma, ostracism and economic and social exclusion, and developing linkages with civil society organizations and women's and girls' empowerment programmes so as to help to achieve this goal;

(k) Empowering fistula survivors to make informed decisions about their lives and to contribute to community sensitization and mobilization as advocates for fistula elimination, safe motherhood and newborn survival, and supporting the exercise of their voice, agency and leadership;

(l) Accelerating efforts to improve the health of women and girls globally, with an increased focus on social determinants that affect their well-being and that include the provision of universal access to quality education for women and girls, economic empowerment, with access to microcredit, savings and microfinancing, legal reforms, the promotion and support of their meaningful participation in decision-making at all levels, and social initiatives, including legal literacy to protect women and girls from violence and discrimination, child, early and forced marriage and early pregnancy;

(m) Educating individual women and men, girls and boys, communities, policymakers and health professionals about how obstetric fistula can be prevented and treated, and increasing awareness of the needs of pregnant women and girls, as well as of those who have undergone surgical fistula repair, including their right to the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, including sexual and reproductive health, by working with community and religious leaders, traditional birth attendants and midwives, women and girls who have suffered from fistula, the media, social workers, civil society, women's organizations, influential public figures and policymakers;

(n) Enhancing the participation of men and adolescent boys in the intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula and further strengthening their involvement as partners, including in the global Campaign to End Fistula;

(o) Strengthening awareness-raising and advocacy, including through the media, to effectively reach families and communities with key messages on fistula prevention and treatment and social reintegration;

(p) Strengthening research, monitoring and evaluation systems, including by developing a community- and facility-based mechanism for the systematic notification of obstetric fistula cases and maternal and newborn deaths to ministries of health, and their recording in a national register, and by acknowledging obstetric fistula as a nationally notifiable condition, triggering immediate reporting, tracking and follow-up for the purpose of guiding the development and implementation of maternal health programmes and ending fistula within a decade;

(q) Strengthening research, data collection, monitoring and evaluation to guide the planning and implementation of maternal health programmes, including for obstetric fistula, by conducting up-to-date needs assessments on emergency obstetric and newborn care and for fistula and routine reviews of maternal deaths and near-

miss cases as part of a national maternal death surveillance and response system, integrated within national health information systems;

(r) Improving data collection, pre- and post-surgery, to measure progress in addressing needs for surgical treatment and the quality of surgery, rehabilitation and socioeconomic reintegration services, including post-surgery prospects for successful subsequent pregnancies, live births and severe health-related complications, so as to address the challenges of improving maternal health;

(s) Providing essential health-care services, equipment and supplies, education, skills training and income-generating projects and support to women and girls so that they can break out of the cycle of poverty;

15. *Encourages* Member States to contribute to efforts to end obstetric fistula, including, in particular, through the global Campaign to End Fistula, to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and to commit themselves to continued efforts to improve maternal and newborn health, with the aim of eliminating obstetric fistula globally within a decade;

16. *Requests* the global Campaign to End Fistula to develop a road map that will accelerate action to end obstetric fistula within a decade, towards achieving the 2030 Agenda, including for enhancing financial resources for interventions at the local, subnational, national, regional and international levels, in order to support countries and relevant United Nations organizations in the prevention, treatment and care of obstetric fistula;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report with specific updated statistics and disaggregated data on obstetric fistula and the challenges faced by Member States in implementing the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

RESOLUTION 77/197

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/457, para. 20)[184]

77/197. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 2023/302 of 31 October 2022 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note also of the request regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the note verbale dated 25 July 2022 from the Permanent Mission of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[185]

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from 107 States to 108 States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional member at a meeting of its management segment in 2023.

[184] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Brazil, Congo, Cuba, Iceland, Malawi, Panama, South Africa, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania.

[185] E/2023/3.

RESOLUTION 77/198

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/457, para. 20)[186]

77/198. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office[187] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its seventy-third session[188] and the decisions contained therein,

Recalling its previous annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since its establishment by the General Assembly,

Expressing deep concern that the number of people who are forcibly displaced owing to, inter alia, conflict, persecution and violence, including terrorism, is increasing,

Expressing deep concern also that the adverse effects of climate change, hazards and environmental degradation are increasing in intensity and frequency, contributing to drive forced displacement and disproportionately affecting persons in vulnerable situations, including forcibly displaced populations in developing countries and particularly in small island developing States and the least developed countries,

Noting with grave concern that, despite the unprecedented generosity of host countries and donors, the gap between needs and humanitarian funding continues to grow, and recalling in this context the need for equitable burden- and responsibility-sharing,

Recognizing that the greatest share of the refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, the majority of whom are women and children, are hosted by developing countries,

Noting with grave concern the continuing impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, as well as their host communities and countries and countries of origin, and recalling that the pandemic requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and multilateral cooperation,

Recognizing that forced displacement has, inter alia, humanitarian and development implications,

Expressing its appreciation for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner, and commending the staff of his Office and its partners for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities,

Underlining its strong condemnation of all forms of violence to which humanitarian personnel are increasingly and perilously exposed,

Reaffirming the need for consistency with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions, and taking into account national policies, priorities and realities,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations and all subsequent General Assembly resolutions on the subject, including resolution 76/124 of 10 December 2021,

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[186] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia.

[187] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/77/12).

[188] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/77/12/Add.1).

1. *Welcomes* the important work undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Executive Committee in the course of the year, which is aimed at strengthening the international protection regime and assisting Governments in meeting protection responsibilities, and underlines the importance of seeking durable solutions, and the significance of the Office's efforts to promote addressing root causes, within its mandate;

2. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its seventy-third session;

3. *Recognizes* the relevance of the Executive Committee's practice of adopting conclusions, welcomes the adoption of a conclusion on mental health and psychosocial support at the seventy-third session of the Executive Committee, and encourages the Executive Committee to continue this process;

4. *Reaffirms* the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[189] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[190] as the foundation of the international refugee protection regime, recognizes the importance of their full and effective application by States parties and the values they embody, notes with satisfaction that 149 States are now parties to one or both instruments, encourages States not parties to consider acceding to those instruments and States parties with reservations to give consideration to withdrawing them, underlines, in particular, the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement, and recognizes that a number of States not parties to the international refugee instruments have shown a generous approach to hosting refugees;

5. *Urges* States that are parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto to respect their obligations in letter and spirit;

6. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions, and strongly emphasizes the importance of active international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing;

7. *Welcomes* recent accessions to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[191] and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[192] notes that 96 States are now parties to the 1954 Convention and 78 States are parties to the 1961 Convention, encourages States that have not done so to give consideration to acceding to those instruments, notes the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with regard to identifying stateless persons, preventing and reducing statelessness and protecting stateless persons, and urges the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work in this area in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions and Executive Committee conclusions;

8. *Re-emphasizes* that prevention and reduction of statelessness are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, encourages the fulfilment of the goals of the I Belong campaign to end statelessness, including through the implementation by States of pledges made at the high-level segment that took place at the start of the seventieth plenary session of the Executive Committee, and encourages all States to consider actions they may take to further accelerate the prevention and reduction of statelessness;

9. *Notes* that the lack of civil registration and related documentation makes persons vulnerable to statelessness and associated protection risks, recognizes that birth registration provides an official record of a child's legal identity and is crucial to preventing and reducing statelessness, and welcomes efforts by States to ensure the birth registration of children and other essential documentation;

10. *Notes with concern* that arbitrary deprivation of nationality pushes people into statelessness and is a source of widespread suffering, and calls upon States to refrain from adopting discriminatory measures and from enacting or maintaining legislation that would arbitrarily revoke citizenship of their nationals, rendering a person stateless;

11. *Re-emphasizes* that protection of, assistance to and achieving durable solutions for internally displaced persons are primarily the responsibility of States, in appropriate cooperation with the international community, in line

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[189] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[190] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[191] Ibid., vol. 360, No. 5158.

[192] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

with applicable international law, and taking into consideration international and regional norms and standards, as appropriate, and welcomes efforts by States to incorporate such norms and standards into domestic law and national development plans, aimed at, inter alia, facilitating voluntary, safe, sustainable and dignified return, local integration or relocation in their own country;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement, calls for sustained momentum on this important issue, and encourages the Office of the High Commissioner, in coordination with the Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement, to contribute to the United Nations system's collective efforts to advance durable solutions, with ownership and leadership of affected States;

13. *Notes* the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to the protection of, assistance to and durable solutions for internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be carried out with the full consent of the affected States, consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions, and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his support for States in this regard;

14. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to respond adequately to emergencies, in accordance with its mandate and in cooperation with States, notes the ongoing measures to reinforce its capacity to respond to emergencies, and encourages the Office to redouble its efforts to ensure a more predictable, effective and timely response;

15. *Also encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to work in partnership and full cooperation with relevant national authorities, United Nations offices and agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, the private sector and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the development of humanitarian response capacities at all levels;

16. *Welcomes* the efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner to ensure an inclusive, transparent, predictable and well-coordinated response to refugees as well as internally displaced persons and other persons of concern, consistent with its mandate, and in this regard takes note of the refugee coordination model;

17. *Highlights* the importance for States and the Office of the High Commissioner to have, when possible, high-quality and disaggregated data, in accordance with data protection and data privacy principles, and stresses the importance of interoperable data collection and analysis within the United Nations system, consistent with relevant United Nations provisions relating to data, further calls for strengthened coordination in this regard, and welcomes the collaboration of the Office of the High Commissioner with key data actors, development partners and States, including through the Joint Data Center on Forced Displacement, in order to promote evidence-based programming and policymaking at all levels to better target and monitor assistance;

18. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian response and to contribute, in consultation with States, as appropriate, to making further progress towards common humanitarian needs assessments, as stated, among other important issues, in General Assembly resolution 76/124 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, and recalls the role of the Office of the High Commissioner as the leading entity of the clusters for protection, camp coordination and camp management and emergency shelter in complex emergencies;

19. *Underlines* the centrality of international cooperation to the refugee protection regime, recognizes the burden that large movements of refugees place on major and long-standing refugee-hosting countries and communities, as well as their national resources, especially in the case of developing countries, and calls for a more equitable sharing of the burden and responsibility for hosting and supporting the world's refugees, addressing the needs of refugees and hosting States, while taking account of existing contributions and the differing capacities and resources among States;

20. *Recognizes* the importance of meaningful refugee participation and of integrating the perspectives of refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner in humanitarian responses;

21. *Notes* the significant global and regional initiatives, conferences and summits undertaken to strengthen international solidarity with and cooperation for refugees and other persons of concern, and encourages those who participated to implement their commitments made therein;

22. *Recalls* the adoption of the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants[193] at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing large movements of refugees and migrants, on 19 September 2016, and encourages States to implement relevant commitments made therein;

23. *Also recalls* the Global Compact on Refugees,[194] affirmed on 17 December 2018,[195] and calls upon the international community as a whole, including States and other relevant stakeholders, to implement the Compact to achieve its four objectives on an equal footing based on the principle of burden- and responsibility-sharing, and in accordance with the guiding principles and paragraph 4 of the Global Compact on Refugees, through concrete actions, pledges and contributions;

24. *Welcomes* the pledges, contributions and commitments made at the Global Refugee Forum, in December 2019, as well as the sustained engagement of States and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of pledges and in their review process at the first meeting of high-level officials in December 2021, also welcomes the High Commissioner's regular progress report, and encourages continued engagement in the preparations for the second Global Refugee Forum, in 2023;

25. *Emphasizes* the need for robust, well-functioning, concrete arrangements and potential, complementary mechanisms for ensuring predictable, equitable, efficient and effective burden- and responsibility-sharing in the context of the Global Compact on Refugees;

26. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the increased number of countries applying the comprehensive refugee response framework that is part of the Global Compact on Refugees, including through regional approaches, where applicable, such as the comprehensive regional protection and solutions framework (MIRPS), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development regional approach, the Solutions Strategy for Afghan Refugees and the regional cooperation framework to strengthen protection and the search for solutions for people displaced by the Central African crisis, welcomes the launch and efforts of support platforms established for these mechanisms, as concrete arrangements to support responsibility-sharing, and encourages States, and other stakeholders, to continue their efforts to address the needs of the people who require international protection, including through support for host communities;

27. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant stakeholders to provide the necessary support for the implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees and its comprehensive refugee response framework with a view to sharing the burden and responsibilities for hosting and supporting refugees, while recognizing contributions already made to ensure timely, adequate, flexible and needs-driven humanitarian assistance, and underscores the critical importance of additional development support over and above regular development assistance for host countries and countries of origin in a spirit of partnership, respecting country ownership and leadership;

28. *Expresses concern* over the significant challenges associated with hosting, protecting and integrating refugees in national systems and strategies given socioeconomic difficulties and stretched resources, affecting, inter alia, infrastructure, social security and the provision of protection services, education, health and employment, and stresses the importance of easing pressure on host countries by facilitating more equitable, sustained and predictable burden- and responsibility-sharing among States and other relevant stakeholders;

29. *Invites* the High Commissioner to continue coordinating the effort to measure the impacts arising from hosting, protecting and assisting refugees, with a view to assessing gaps in international cooperation and promoting burden- and responsibility-sharing that is more equitable, predictable and sustainable, and to report on the results to Member States in 2023;

30. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner and partners to effectively provide and facilitate further support for States in different situations, enabling them to build and expand the capacity of national systems to protect persons of concern to the Office and to the communities hosting them, as well as support for durable solutions and emergency responses, consistent with the principles of burden- and responsibility-sharing, taking into account the importance of national ownership and leadership;

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[193] Resolution 71/1.

[194] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/73/12 (Part I) and A/73/12 (Part II)), part II.

[195] See resolution 73/151.

31. *Calls upon* States and other stakeholders that have not yet contributed to burden- and responsibility-sharing to do so, with a view to broadening the support base, in a spirit of international solidarity and cooperation;

32. *Welcomes* the active engagement of the Office of the High Commissioner in the United Nations development system reform, including as part of broader efforts towards generating system-wide effectiveness, transparency, accountability and efficiencies;

33. *Notes* the transformation process that the High Commissioner is implementing to establish clearer authorities and lines of accountability, including through regionalization and decentralization, to enable a more timely, relevant and efficient response to the needs of persons of concern and to ensure the effective and transparent use of the Office's resources;

34. *Affirms* the importance of a geographically diverse, inclusive and representative workforce, with a view to reflecting the international character of the Office of the High Commissioner, and calls upon the Office to take effective measures to ensure balanced geographical representation across the regions, in particular from underrepresented States and large refugee-hosting States, among its workforce both at headquarters and in the field, with due consideration for gender parity, racial equality, disability and age, particularly at the senior level, which will also promote a better understanding of the working environment;

35. *Welcomes* the commitment and efforts of the Office of the High Commissioner to prevent, mitigate and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, fraud, corruption and other forms of misconduct, and encourages the Office to sustain action with a view to strengthening and enforcing the zero-tolerance approach;

36. *Expresses deep concern* about the increasing threats to the safety and security of humanitarian aid workers, facilities and convoys and, in particular, the loss of life of humanitarian personnel working in the most difficult and challenging conditions in order to assist those in need, and calls upon all States and parties to armed conflict to fulfil their obligations under international humanitarian law to protect civilian populations and humanitarian personnel and facilities;

37. *Emphasizes* the need for States to ensure that perpetrators of attacks committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel do not act with impunity and that the perpetrators of such acts are promptly brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

38. *Strongly condemns* attacks on refugees, asylum-seekers, stateless persons and internally displaced persons and acts that pose a threat to their personal security and well-being, calls upon all States concerned and, where applicable, parties involved in an armed conflict to take all measures necessary to respect and ensure respect for human rights, and international humanitarian law, and urges all States to fight racism and all forms of discrimination and intolerance, including racial discrimination, xenophobia, hate speech, stigmatization and stereotyping;

39. *Emphasizes* that the international protection of refugees is a dynamic and action-oriented function that is at the core of the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner and that it includes, in cooperation with States and other partners, the promotion and facilitation of the admission, reception and treatment of refugees in accordance with internationally agreed standards and the ensuring of durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of the most vulnerable, and notes in this context that the delivery of international protection is a staff-intensive service that requires adequate staff with the appropriate expertise, especially at the field level;

40. *Calls upon* States to process asylum applications by duly identifying those in need of international protection, in accordance with their applicable international and regional obligations, so as to strengthen the refugee protection regime;

41. *Deplores* the growing number of incidents of refoulement and unlawful expulsion of refugees and asylum-seekers, as well as practices of denial of access to asylum, and calls upon all States concerned to respect the relevant principles of refugee protection and human rights;

42. *Stresses* the importance of preventing abuse of asylum systems, including for political purposes, in order to safeguard the efficiency and functionality of asylum systems for those in need of international protection;

43. *Urges* States to uphold the civilian and humanitarian character of camps and settlements for refugees and internally displaced persons, inter alia, through effective measures to prevent the infiltration of armed elements, to identify and separate any such armed elements from refugee populations, to settle refugees and internally displaced

persons in secure locations and to afford to the Office of the High Commissioner and, where appropriate, to other humanitarian organizations prompt, unhindered and safe access to asylum-seekers, refugees and other persons of concern;

44. *Notes with increasing concern* that asylum-seekers, refugees and stateless persons are subject to arbitrary detention in numerous situations and encourages working towards the ending of this practice, welcomes the increasing use of alternatives to detention, especially in the case of children, and emphasizes the need for States to limit detention of asylum-seekers, refugees and stateless persons to that which is necessary, giving full consideration to possible alternatives;

45. *Notes with grave concern* the significant risks to which many persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner are exposed as they attempt to reach safety, and encourages international cooperation to step up efforts to prevent and combat human trafficking and smuggling and to ensure adequate response mechanisms, including, as appropriate, life-saving measures, reception, registration and assistance, including trauma-informed assistance for victims of human trafficking and smuggling, as well as to ensure that safe and regular access to asylum for persons in need of international protection remains open and accessible;

46. *Expresses grave concern* at the large number of asylum-seekers who have lost their lives or gone missing at sea and on land trying to reach safety, encourages international cooperation to further strengthen prevention, search and rescue mechanisms that are in accordance with international law, and commends the great life-saving efforts and actions taken by a number of States in this regard;

47. *Also expresses grave concern* over the unprecedented scale of the global food security and nutrition crisis and the impacts this will have on persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, who are already in a situation of vulnerability, and calls upon States, humanitarian and development organizations and other relevant partners to take coordinated and immediate action to save lives and reduce suffering in countries at risk of famine, food insecurity, hunger and acute malnutrition, and in this regard takes note of the work of the Secretary-General's Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance and the Committee on World Food Security, bearing in mind its resolution 76/264 of 23 May 2022 on the state of global food insecurity and measures contained to reinforce global food security;

48. *Further expresses grave concern* about the negative long-term impact of continued cuts in food rations on the nutrition, health and well-being of refugees and hosting communities globally and especially its impacts on women and children, owing to insufficient funding and increased costs, and calls upon donors to ensure sustained support for the Office of the High Commissioner and the World Food Programme, while looking to provide refugees with alternatives to food assistance, pending a durable solution;

49. *Recognizes* that the COVID-19 pandemic requires a global response to ensure that all States, in particular developing States, including refugee-hosting countries as well as the countries of origin, have universal, timely, effective and equitable access to safe and effective diagnostics, therapeutics, medicines, vaccines and medical supplies and equipment, calls upon States and other partners to urgently support funding and further explore innovative financing mechanisms aimed at ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines for all, including persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner and their host communities, bearing in mind that extensive immunization against COVID-19 is a global public good for health in preventing, containing and stopping transmission and bringing the pandemic to an end, and to ensure that refugees can access correct information to avoid the negative impact of disinformation and misinformation, and stresses the need to adequately prepare for and respond to future public health emergencies of international concern;

50. *Also recognizes* the generosity of host countries and their differentiated experiences and situations, and in particular welcomes the positive steps taken by individual States to open their labour markets to refugees;

51. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of refugees in host countries and countries of resettlement, including facilitating the generation of decent work opportunities, with the purpose of developing sustainable livelihoods until durable solutions are achieved, and recalls that further international cooperation is needed in support of host communities, particularly in long-standing refugee-hosting countries;

52. *Notes* the importance of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in analysing protection needs and ensuring the participation of refugees and other persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, as appropriate, in the planning and implementation of programmes of the Office and of State policies, affirms the importance of according priority to addressing discrimination, gender inequality and the problem of sexual and

gender-based violence, recognizing the importance of addressing the protection needs and rights of women, children and persons with disabilities in particular, through an inclusive approach, and underlines the importance of continuing to work on those issues;

53. *Encourages* States and the Office of the High Commissioner to ensure that the perspectives of women and girls in situations of displacement are taken into account by promoting their meaningful participation in matters affecting them, as well as women's full and equal participation in the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of policies, programmes and activities related to humanitarian response;

54. *Calls upon* Member States, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner and with the support of other stakeholders, to ensure that the humanitarian needs of persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner, and their host communities, including clean water, food and nutrition, shelter, education, livelihoods, energy, health, including sexual and reproductive health, and other protection needs, are addressed as components of humanitarian response, including through providing timely and adequate resources, while ensuring that their collaborative efforts fully adhere to humanitarian principles;

55. *Welcomes* and calls upon States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other stakeholders to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, and in this regard urges Member States, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, and with the support of other stakeholders, to ensure reliable and safe access for persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner to sexual and reproductive health-care services, as well as basic health-care services and psychosocial support from the onset of emergencies, while recognizing that relevant services are important in order to effectively meet the needs of women and adolescent girls and infants and protect them from preventable mortality and morbidity that occur in humanitarian emergencies;

56. *Encourages* States to put in place appropriate systems and procedures to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration with regard to all actions concerning refugee children and to protect them from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence, while taking into account the situation of those with disabilities;

57. *Encourages* States and the Office of the High Commissioner to support and enable the full and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities, including those in particularly vulnerable situations, and their representative organizations, in the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of policies, programmes and activities related to humanitarian response, and to consult relevant experts on the rights of persons with disabilities, and further requests the Office to continue its work on the implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy and to regularly report to the Executive Committee on its progress;

58. *Notes with concern* that a large proportion of the world's out-of-school population lives in conflict-affected areas, and calls upon States, in their implementation of the Global Compact on Refugees, to lend support to host countries in providing quality primary, secondary and tertiary education in safe learning environments for all refugee children, youth and adults, and to develop more inclusive, responsive and resilient education systems to meet the needs of children, youth and adults in these contexts, including internally displaced persons and refugees,[196] and underlines the importance of quality education in countries of origin and the role of international cooperation in this regard;

59. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue improving its humanitarian assistance response, and stresses the importance of tailored, innovative approaches, including effective cash-based interventions;

60. *Encourages* States and the Office of the High Commissioner to address mental health and psychosocial well-being by promoting the availability and affordability of mental health and psychosocial support to persons of concern to the Office, as well as host communities, and encourages the further strengthening of such measures, including through additional international support;

61. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking durable solutions for them and for refugee situations, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that

[196] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum 2015, Incheon, Republic of Korea, 19–22 May 2015* (Paris, 2015).

voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

62. *Reaffirms* that accelerating complementary pathways to solutions is crucial for addressing protracted refugee situations, and recognizes the importance of the work of the Office of the High Commissioner for seeking durable solutions for refugees, in accordance with its mandate;

63. *Calls upon* States to consider creating, expanding or facilitating access to complementary and sustainable pathways to protection and solutions for refugees, in cooperation with relevant partners, including the private sector, where appropriate, including through humanitarian admission or transfer, family reunification, skilled migration, labour mobility schemes, scholarships and education mobility schemes;

64. *Expresses concern* about the particular difficulties faced by the millions of refugees in protracted situations, recognizes with deep concern that the average length of stay has continued to grow, and emphasizes the need to redouble international efforts and cooperation to find practical and comprehensive approaches to resolving the plight of refugees and to realize durable solutions, consistent with international law and relevant General Assembly resolutions;

65. *Recognizes* the importance of achieving durable solutions to refugee situations and, in particular, the need to address in this process their root causes;

66. *Encourages* further efforts by the Office of the High Commissioner, in cooperation with countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, including their respective local communities, relevant United Nations agencies, international and intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, as appropriate, non-governmental organizations and development actors, to actively promote durable solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations, with a focus on sustainable, timely, voluntary, safe and dignified return, which encompasses repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction activities, and encourages States and other relevant actors to continue to support these efforts through, inter alia, the allocation of funds;

67. *Recalls* the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the Office of the High Commissioner, calls upon the international community and the Office to coordinate and exert further efforts to promote and facilitate, whenever the prevailing circumstances are deemed appropriate, the safe, dignified and voluntary repatriation of refugees, through their free and informed choice, in a sustainable manner, to their countries of origin, and encourages the Office and, where appropriate, other United Nations agencies, to mobilize further resources in this regard;

68. *Expresses concern* about the current low level of voluntary repatriation, encourages the solution-oriented approach pursued by the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of voluntary repatriation and reintegration, including from the onset of displacement, and in this regard urges the Office to further strengthen partnerships with national Governments and development actors, as well as international financial institutions;

69. *Recognizes*, in the context of voluntary repatriation, the importance of resolute efforts in the country of origin, including rehabilitation and development assistance, to foster the voluntary, safe and dignified return and sustainable reintegration of refugees and to ensure the restoration of national protection;

70. *Acknowledges with appreciation* voluntary action taken by several host countries to enable permanent residence and naturalization for refugees and former refugees;

71. *Recognizes* the importance of resettlement as a strategic protection tool and a durable solution for refugees in reducing the pressure on refugee-hosting countries in protracted situations, as a measure for international protection, as well as in opening possibilities for other durable solutions;

72. *Calls upon* States and the Office of the High Commissioner to create expanded opportunities for inclusive and non-discriminatory resettlement as a durable solution, broaden the base of countries and actors engaged, expand the scope and size, and maximize the protection and quality of resettlement as an invaluable tool for burden- and responsibility-sharing, and acknowledges with appreciation countries that continue to offer enhanced resettlement opportunities;

73. *Notes* the importance of States and the Office of the High Commissioner discussing and clarifying the role of the Office in mixed movements in order to better address protection needs of people in the context of mixed movements, bearing in mind the particular needs of persons in vulnerable situations, especially women, children and persons with disabilities, including by safeguarding access to asylum for those in need of international protection, and

also notes the readiness of the High Commissioner, consistent with his mandate, to assist States in fulfilling their protection responsibilities in this regard;

74. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have been determined not to be in need of international protection, in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

75. *Welcomes* the increased attention and efforts of the Office of the High Commissioner to address and respond to matters related to the impact of climate change in its work, including the adoption of a strategic framework for climate action, within its mandate, in consultation with national authorities and in cooperation with competent agencies;

76. *Calls upon* States to take appropriate measures to address climate change, including with a view to building local and national resilience and capacity to prevent, prepare for and respond to displacement in this context in particular in developing countries, including in small island developing States and the least developed countries;

77. *Calls upon* donors, the Office of the High Commissioner and other stakeholders to mobilize and provide additional support for adaptation and mitigation of environmental impacts of hosting large numbers of refugees and other forcibly displaced people, including by supporting renewable energy, environmental protection and rehabilitation initiatives for refugees and other forcibly displaced people and their host communities;

78. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources, including through financial and in-kind assistance, as well as direct aid to host countries, countries of origin, refugee populations and the communities hosting them, with a view to enhancing their capacity and reducing the heavy burden borne by countries and communities hosting refugees, in particular those that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, and whose generosity is appreciated;

79. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the environmental, development, security and social impacts and economic and financial constraints faced by developing countries hosting refugee populations, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, and notes with appreciation those States, organizations and individuals that contribute to improving the conditions for refugees through building their resilience and that of their host communities, while working towards addressing root causes and the attainment of durable solutions;

80. *Recognizes* the importance of a comprehensive and principled approach to humanitarian response, in particular in protracted situations, including through early recovery activities, to strengthen the resilience of the persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner and their access to basic services;

81. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the cooperation of the Office of the High Commissioner with development partners, noting the advantages of complementarity of funding sources to support refugees and host communities as requested by host Governments, and the importance of doing so in a manner that does not negatively impact or reduce support for broader development objectives in host countries and, where appropriate, countries of origin;

82. *Expresses concern* that the needs required to protect and assist persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner continue to increase and that the gap between global needs and available resources continues to grow, appreciates the continued and increasing hospitality of host countries and generosity of donors, and therefore calls upon the Office to further enhance efforts to broaden its donor base so as to achieve greater burden- and responsibility-sharing by reinforcing cooperation with governmental donors, non-governmental donors and the private sector;

83. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential for the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it through its statute[197] and by subsequent General Assembly resolutions on refugees and other persons of concern, recalls its resolution 58/153 of 22 December 2003 and subsequent

[197] Resolution 428 (V), annex.

resolutions on the Office of the High Commissioner concerning, inter alia, the implementation of paragraph 20 of the statute of the Office, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to annual and supplementary appeals issued by the Office for requirements under its programmes, keeping in mind the importance of unearmarked and other flexible funding;

84. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his annual activities to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 77/199

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/457, para. 20)[198]

77/199. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[199] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[200]

Reaffirming that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[201] together with the 1967 Protocol thereto,[202] as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

Welcoming the entry into force on 6 December 2012 and the ongoing process of ratification of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa,[203] which marks a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative frameworks for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons,

Recalling the decision of the African Union to declare 2019 as the African Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa,

Recognizing the particular vulnerability of women and children, as well as older persons and persons with disabilities, among refugees and displaced persons, including exposure to discrimination, sexual exploitation and abuse, physical abuse, violence and exploitation and the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict in violation of applicable international law, and in this regard acknowledging the importance of preventing, responding to and addressing sexual and gender-based violence as well as violations and abuses committed against refugee, returnee and displaced children,

Expressing gravest concerns about the humanitarian impact of and risks posed by the short- and long-term impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including on the already significant levels of humanitarian and development needs and suffering of affected people and communities, recognizing the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on women, children and people in vulnerable situations, and profoundly concerned by rising humanitarian assistance and protection needs including due to the increase in violence, including sexual and gender-based violence and violence against children, and the significant impact on education, especially for girls, as well as high levels of food insecurity and malnutrition and rising risks of famine, loss of livelihoods, and all the negative impacts on health, including mental health, which are also exacerbated by weakened health systems, and the impacts and risks for displacement; and recognizing the compounded risks and impacts due to armed conflict, poverty, natural

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[198] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Ecuador, Georgia, Greece, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Sweden, Türkiye, United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[199] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[200] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[201] Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

[202] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[203] Ibid., vol. 3014, No. 52375.

disasters, violence, the adverse effects of climate change, and other environmental challenges; and further recognizing the efforts and measures proposed by the Secretary-General concerning the response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Gravely concerned about the continued rising number of refugees and displaced persons in various parts of the continent,

Acknowledging the efforts of Member States, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other stakeholders in improving the situation of refugees and their host communities,

Expressing grave concern about funding gaps in the budgets of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Food Programme, which are among the most underfunded, in responding to various refugee situations in different parts of Africa, which are a major factor leading to the deterioration in living conditions in many refugee camps in Africa,

Emphasizing the need to develop a holistic approach in addressing large movements of population that takes into account the underlying causes of displacement,

Recognizing that refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children are at an increased risk of exposure to HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases,

Recalling the high-level segment on the theme "Enhancing international cooperation, solidarity, local capacities and humanitarian action for refugees in Africa" of the sixty-fifth session of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, held in Geneva from 29 September to 3 October 2014, and the statement adopted on 30 September 2014 by States members of the Executive Committee,[204] and expressing deep concern that this particular event has not mobilized the necessary support for refugees and their hosting countries and communities,

Welcoming progress made in the implementation of the Nairobi Declaration on Durable Solutions for Somali Refugees and the Reintegration of Returnees in Somalia, welcoming also the nomination of the Special Envoy of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the Horn of Africa, the adoption of the Djibouti declaration on refugee education in December 2017 and the Kampala Declaration on Jobs, Livelihoods and Self-Reliance for Refugees, Returnees and Host Communities in the Intergovernmental Authority on Development Region, adopted on 28 March 2019, and welcoming further the reaffirmation by Member States of the commitment to promote inclusive policies towards refugees, as noted in the communiqué of the second interministerial stocktaking meeting on the Nairobi Declaration and Action Plan,

Recalling the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region, adopted by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region in 2006, and its instruments, in particular two of the protocols to the Pact that are relevant to the protection of displaced persons, namely, the Protocol on the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and the Protocol on the Property Rights of Returning Persons,

Acknowledging with appreciation the generosity, hospitality and spirit of solidarity of African States, including host communities, that, despite their limited resources, continue to host a large number of refugees, owing to humanitarian crises and protracted refugee situations, and in this regard expressing particular appreciation for the commitment and efforts of neighbouring countries in the recent humanitarian crises on the continent,

Welcoming efforts by African States that endeavour to facilitate the voluntary repatriation, local integration, resettlement and rehabilitation of refugees and to promote conditions conducive to the voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of refugees in their country of origin, acknowledging with appreciation the coordination of humanitarian assistance by the United Nations as well as the continuing efforts of donors, the United Nations system, including the Office of the High Commissioner, regional organizations, international agencies, non-governmental organizations and other partners,

Welcoming also efforts made with regard to durable solutions for addressing the plight of refugees during emergencies, and recalling that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as

[204] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/69/12/Add.1), annex I.

necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution,

Recognizing that host States have the primary responsibility for the protection of and assistance to refugees on their territory, recognizing also the need to redouble efforts to develop and implement comprehensive durable solution strategies, in appropriate cooperation with the international community and with regard to burden- and responsibility-sharing, and recognizing further the efforts of all States in this regard,

Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem, in appropriate cooperation with the international community,

Expressing concern regarding the decreasing trend in resettlement opportunities, and recognizing the need to expand resettlement opportunities,

Recognizing the need to encourage increased efforts to facilitate and assist voluntary return and local integration,

Welcoming the ongoing implementation of pledges made by States at the intergovernmental ministerial event held in 2011 to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the fiftieth anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[205]

Acknowledging the efforts made by States and regional groups since the launch of the #IBelong campaign to eradicate statelessness and to afford protection to stateless people, as well as the commitments made during the high-level segment on statelessness convened by the Office of the High Commissioner, as well as the outcomes of the fifth Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration, both held in October 2019,

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,[206] 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 challenges of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Taking note of the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, while recognizing that it did not have an intergovernmentally agreed outcome, and welcoming the commitment of the African Heads of State and Government, adopted by the African Union, on the theme "One Africa, One Voice, One Message at the World Humanitarian Summit",

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[207] and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[208]

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet signed or ratified the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa to consider doing so as early as possible in order to ensure its wider implementation;

3. *Notes* the need for African States, with the support and collaboration of the international community, to resolutely address the root causes of all forms of forced displacement in Africa and to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent;

4. *Recalls* the Global Compact on Refugees as set out in the High Commissioner's annual report (part II) of 2018,[209] affirmed on 17 December 2018,[210] and calls upon the international community as a whole, including States and other relevant stakeholders, to implement the Compact in order to achieve its four objectives on an equal footing based on the principle of burden- and responsibility-sharing, and in accordance with the guiding principles and

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[205] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 989, No. 14458.

[206] Resolution 70/1.

[207] A/77/313.

[208] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/77/12).

[209] See A/73/12 (Part II).

[210] See resolution 73/151.

paragraph 4 of the Global Compact on Refugees, through concrete actions, pledges and contributions, including at the first Global Refugee Forum in December 2019, and requests the High Commissioner to report regularly on the progress being made;

5. *Welcomes* the important outcomes of the six continental consultative meetings that were organized under the 2019 theme of the African Union, "Year of refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons: towards durable solutions to forced displacement in Africa", with regard to global responsibility-sharing, the role of parliamentarians in preventing and resolving forced displacement, statelessness, the mixed movements of refugees and migrants, and the ratification and implementation of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969 and the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention) of 2009;

6. *Reaffirms* the central role played by the Heads of State and Government of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development towards the successful negotiations in Khartoum and the eventual signing of the final Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan between the Government and the opposition movements during the thirty-third extraordinary summit, held in Addis Ababa on 12 September 2018, and encourages ongoing efforts to fully implement this agreement in order to achieve a sustainable and lasting peace;

7. *Commends* the continued efforts and commitment by the regional Governments towards resolving conflicts in the region, including the ongoing mediation by the Sudan between the parties to the conflict in the Central African Republic under the umbrella of the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic;

8. *Welcomes* the outcome of the second regional protection dialogue on the Lake Chad basin, held in Nigeria in January 2019, as well as the signing of the Abuja Action Statement by the Governments of Cameroon, Chad, the Niger and Nigeria, with a view to enhancing the response to the urgent needs of refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees and host communities;

9. *Also welcomes* the regional dialogue on protection and solutions related to the situation of forced displacement in the Sahel, held in Bamako on 11 and 12 September 2019, hosted by the Government of Mali, with the participation of government officials from Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania and the Niger, and further welcomes the outcome of the dialogue, namely, the Bamako conclusions and ministerial declaration adopted in Geneva on 9 October 2019;

10. *Notes with great concern* that, despite all the efforts made so far by the United Nations, the African Union and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious and the number of refugees and internally displaced persons has dramatically increased, and calls upon States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and spirit of, and respect and ensure respect for, international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

11. *Welcomes* decision Assembly/AU/Decl. 8 (XXXII), adopted by 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 the 2019 theme of the African Union was declared to be the "Year of refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons: towards durable solutions to forced displacement in Africa";

12. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and commends the Office for its ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African States hosting large numbers of refugees, including by providing support to vulnerable local host communities, and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

13. *Notes* the call of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for a generalized and collective mobilization of the international community to mitigate the short- and long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and calls for a strengthening of international cooperation in order to ensure equitable and timely access to safe, effective and quality vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics;

14. *Recognizes* that the COVID-19 pandemic requires a global response to ensure that all States, in particular developing States, including refugee-hosting countries as well as the countries of origin, have universal, timely, effective, quality and equitable access to safe and effective diagnostics, therapeutics, medicines, vaccines and medical supplies and equipment, and calls upon States and other partners to urgently support funding and further explore

innovative financing mechanisms aimed at ensuring access to the COVID-19 vaccines for all, including persons of concern to the Office of the High Commissioner and their host communities, bearing in mind that extensive immunization against COVID-19 is a global public good for health in preventing, containing and stopping transmission and bringing the pandemic to an end, and to ensure that refugees can access correct information to avoid the negative impact of disinformation and misinformation;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing initiatives taken by the African Union, the Subcommittee on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons of its Permanent Representatives Committee and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, in particular the role of its Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, to ensure the protection of and assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

16. *Underlines* the need to provide an efficient humanitarian response to internally displaced persons, and recognizes in this regard the importance of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;

17. *Acknowledges* the important contribution of age, gender and diversity mainstreaming in identifying, through the full participation of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, the protection risks faced by the different members of the refugee communities, in particular the non-discriminatory treatment and protection of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

18. *Affirms* that children, because of their age, social status and physical and mental development, are often more vulnerable than adults in situations of forced displacement, recognizes that forced displacement, return to post-conflict situations, integration into new societies, protracted situations of displacement and statelessness can increase child protection risks, taking into account the particular vulnerability of displaced children to forcible exposure to the risks of physical and psychological injury, exploitation and death in connection with armed conflict, as well as the recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflict in violation of applicable international law, and acknowledges that wider environmental factors and individual risk factors, particularly when combined, may generate different protection needs;

19. *Recognizes* that no solution to forced displacement can be durable unless it is sustainable, and therefore encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to support the sustainability of durable solutions, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

20. *Reaffirms* the conclusion on civil registration adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at its sixty-fourth session, held in Geneva from 30 September to 4 October 2013,[211] and recognizes the importance of early registration and effective registration systems and censuses as a tool of protection and as a means to the quantification and assessment of needs for the provision and distribution of humanitarian assistance and to implement appropriate durable solutions;

21. *Also reaffirms* the conclusion on registration of refugees and asylum-seekers adopted by the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner at its fifty-second session,[212] notes the many forms of harassment faced by refugees and asylum-seekers who remain without any form of documentation attesting to their status, recalls the responsibility of States to register refugees on their territories and, as appropriate, the responsibility of the Office of the High Commissioner or mandated international bodies to do so, reiterates in this context the central role that early and effective registration and documentation can play, guided by protection considerations, in enhancing protection and supporting efforts to find durable solutions, and calls upon the Office, as appropriate, to help States to conduct this procedure should they be unable to register refugees on their territory;

[211] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/68/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[212] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/56/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. B.

22. *Appreciates* the ongoing efforts undertaken by Member States to implement the conclusion on machine-readable travel documents for refugees and stateless persons adopted by the Executive Committee at its sixty-eighth session;[213]

23. *Calls upon* the international community, including States and the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant United Nations organizations, within their respective mandates, to take concrete action to meet the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and to contribute generously to projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight, facilitating durable solutions and supporting vulnerable local host communities;

24. *Acknowledges* the efforts made by the African countries applying the comprehensive refugee response framework, and underscores the importance for the international community of ensuring adequate, timely and predictable support;

25. *Reaffirms* the importance of timely and adequate assistance and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons, also reaffirms that assistance and protection are mutually reinforcing and that inadequate material assistance and food shortages undermine protection, notes the importance of a rights- and community-based approach in engaging constructively with individual refugees, returnees and displaced persons and their communities so as to achieve fair and equitable access to food and other forms of material assistance, and expresses concern with regard to situations in which minimum standards of assistance are not met, including those in which adequate needs assessments have yet to be undertaken;

26. *Also reaffirms* that respect by States for their protection responsibilities towards refugees is strengthened by international solidarity involving all members of the international community and that the refugee protection regime is enhanced through committed international cooperation in a spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing among all States;

27. *Further reaffirms* that host States have the primary responsibility to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, calls upon States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements or used for purposes that are incompatible with their civilian character, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors, to ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of camps;

28. *Condemns* all acts that pose a threat to the personal security and well-being of refugees and asylum-seekers, such as refoulement, unlawful expulsion and physical attacks, calls upon States of refuge, in cooperation with international organizations, where appropriate, to take all measures necessary to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, including the humane treatment of asylum-seekers, notes with interest that the High Commissioner has continued to take steps to encourage the development of measures to better ensure the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue those efforts, in consultation with States and other relevant actors;

29. *Deplores* the continuing violence and insecurity, which constitute an ongoing threat to the safety and security of staff members of the Office of the High Commissioner and other humanitarian organizations and an obstacle to the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Office and the ability of its implementing partners and other humanitarian personnel to discharge their respective humanitarian functions, urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all measures necessary to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and ensure the safety and security of the personnel and property of the Office and that of all humanitarian organizations discharging functions mandated by the Office, and calls upon States to investigate fully any crime committed against humanitarian personnel and bring to justice the persons responsible for such crimes;

30. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the African Union, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones

[213] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/72/12/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

in support of the protection system for refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons, and encourages African States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying and enforcing the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[214]

31. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community, donors and other entities concerned to continue and, where appropriate, to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical, legal and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities, in particular to those Governments that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers;

32. *Reaffirms* the right of return, in accordance with international law, and the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, where appropriate and feasible, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

33. *Also reaffirms* that voluntary repatriation should not necessarily be conditioned on the accomplishment of political solutions in the country of origin in order not to impede the exercise of the refugees' right to return, recognizes that the voluntary repatriation and reintegration process is normally guided by the conditions in the country of origin, in particular that voluntary repatriation can be accomplished in conditions of safety and dignity, urges the High Commissioner to promote sustainable return through the development of durable and lasting solutions, particularly in protracted refugee situations, and encourages States and other relevant actors to continue to support these efforts through, inter alia, the allocation of funds;

34. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide financial and material assistance which allows for the implementation of community-based development programmes that benefit both refugees and host communities, as appropriate, in agreement with host countries and consistent with humanitarian objectives;

35. *Recognizes* the increase in the number and scale of disasters, including those related to the adverse effects of climate change, which in certain circumstances may contribute to displacement and additional pressure on host communities, encourages the United Nations and all relevant actors to strengthen the efforts aimed at addressing the needs of persons displaced within the context of such disasters, and notes in this regard the importance of sharing best practices to prevent and prepare for such displacements;

36. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to the third-country resettlement needs of African refugees, notes in this regard the importance of using resettlement strategically, as part of situation-specific comprehensive responses to refugee situations, and to this end encourages States, the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant partners to make full use of the Multilateral Framework of Understandings on Resettlement, where appropriate and feasible;

37. *Expresses serious concern* about the chronic underfunding for humanitarian assistance to refugees and internally displaced persons in Africa;

38. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide assistance for material, financial and technical support intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum as well as internally displaced persons, where appropriate, and notes with concern the environmental degradation in these areas;

39. *Urges* the international community, in line with the principles of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant humanitarian organizations and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, inter alia, as a result of repatriation possibilities, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees, and recognizes the importance of increased, flexible, predictable and multi-year funding;

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[214] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2051, No. 35457.

40. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner and interested States to identify protracted refugee situations which might lend themselves to resolution through the development of specific, multilateral, comprehensive and practical approaches to resolving such refugee situations, including the improvement of international burden- and responsibility-sharing and the realization of durable solutions, within a multilateral context, and recalls that those solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, while reaffirming that voluntary repatriation, supported, as necessary, by rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration, remains the preferred solution;

41. *Recalls* the need to reflect on effective strategies to ensure adequate protection and assistance for internally displaced persons and to prevent and reduce such displacement, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to work with Member States and the United Nations system to explore ways to better address the long-term needs of internally displaced persons, support communities that host them and improve the lives of the many millions of internally displaced persons;

42. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, welcomes the efforts of African States in strengthening the regional mechanisms for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in that regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[215] notes the current activities of the Office of the High Commissioner related to the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, including in the context of inter-agency arrangements in this field, emphasizes that such activities should be consistent with relevant General Assembly resolutions and should not undermine the refugee mandate of the Office and the institution of asylum, and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his dialogue with States on the role of his Office in this regard;

43. *Welcomes* the efforts by the High Commissioner to improve coordination with Member States and other United Nations agencies;

44. *Also welcomes* the efforts by the High Commissioner towards regionalization and decentralization, including to ensure that decision-making is closer to the point of delivery, and towards efficiency gains as efforts continue to advance refugee protection and solutions;

45. *Encourages* African States, together with development and humanitarian actors, to work closely on multi-year strategies for refugees and internally displaced persons, factoring in the subregional dimension of many forced displacement crises;

46. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of internally displaced persons to continue the ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with the Council's mandate, and to include information thereon in all reports to the Council and the General Assembly;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, taking fully into account, inter alia, the situation of their host communities, refugee camps and the efforts expended by countries of asylum and those aimed at bridging funding gaps, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions".

RESOLUTION 77/200

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 115 to 3, with 59 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/458, para. 12)[216]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea,

[215] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[216] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, Liberia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Belarus, Israel, Nicaragua

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

77/200. Report of the Human Rights Council

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/251 of 15 March 2006, by which it established the Human Rights Council, and 65/281 of 17 June 2011 on the review of the Council,

Recalling also its resolutions 62/219 of 22 December 2007, 63/160 of 18 December 2008, 64/143 of 18 December 2009, 65/195 of 21 December 2010, 66/136 of 19 December 2011, 67/151 of 20 December 2012, 68/144 of 18 December 2013, 69/155 of 18 December 2014, 70/136 of 17 December 2015, 71/174 of 19 December 2016, 72/153 of 19 December 2017, 73/152 of 17 December 2018, 74/132 of 18 December 2019, 75/165 of 16 December 2020 and 76/145 of 16 December 2021,

Having considered the recommendations contained in the report of the Human Rights Council,[217]

Takes note of the report of the Human Rights Council, including the addendum thereto, and its recommendations.

RESOLUTION 77/201

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/459, para. 23)[218]

77/201. Protecting children from bullying

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 69/158 of 18 December 2014, 71/176 of 19 December 2016, 73/154 of 17 December 2018 and 75/166 of 16 December 2020 on protecting children from bullying, all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child and the resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council that are relevant to the protection of children from bullying, including resolution 51/10 of 6 October 2022,[219]

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[217] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53); and ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1).

[218] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[219] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

Reaffirming the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[220] and emphasizing that it constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child and that States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein,

Recalling the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training,[221] the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Declaration of Principles on Tolerance,[222] the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Convention against Discrimination in Education[223] and International Telecommunication Union resolution 67 on the role of the telecommunication development sector in child online protection,

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its entirety,[224] including the Goals and targets aimed at ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children, building and upgrading education facilities that are child-, disability- and gender-responsive, and providing safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all children, and underscoring the importance of its implementation for ensuring the enjoyment of the rights of the child,

Recalling the observance of the International Day against Violence and Bullying at School, including Cyberbullying, on the first Thursday of November every year,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General,[225] as well as of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing the importance of international, regional and bilateral multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives to advance the effective protection and promotion of the rights of the child and the elimination of violence against children, including all forms of bullying, and in this regard noting with appreciation the efforts of, inter alia, the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children and the WeProtect Global Alliance,

Welcoming the development of national and subnational action plans and awareness-raising campaigns and the enactment of legislation by several Member States to prevent and respond to school violence and bullying, including cyberbullying,

Recognizing that bullying, including cyberbullying, can take both direct and indirect forms, from acts of physical, verbal, sexual and relational violence or aggression to social exclusion, including from peer to peer, as well as from acts of discrimination, which can inflict physical, psychological and social harm, and that, although rates differ from country to country, bullying, online or in person, has a negative impact on the fulfilment of the rights of the child and is among children's main concerns, affecting a high percentage of children and compromising their health, emotional well-being and academic work, and acknowledging the need to prevent and eliminate bullying among children,

Recognizing also that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has been one of the greatest global challenges in the history of the United Nations, and noting with deep concern its disproportionately heavy impact, inter alia, on children, and its impact on health and the loss of life, mental health and well-being, as well as the negative impact on global humanitarian needs and the enjoyment of human rights and across all spheres of society, including on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, and education, the exacerbation of poverty and hunger, disruption to economies, trade, societies and environments, and the exacerbation of economic and social inequalities within and among countries, which is reversing hard-won development gains and hampering progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and all its Goals and targets,

Recognizing further that the use of technology, specifically digital platforms, can mitigate the loss of education and learning opportunities caused by, inter alia, school closures, while expressing concern that the poorest and most

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[220] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[221] Resolution 66/137, annex.

[222] See A/51/201, annex, appendix I.

[223] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 429, No. 6193.

[224] Resolution 70/1.

[225] A/71/213 and A/73/265.

vulnerable children, including children with disabilities and Indigenous children, are least likely to live in a suitable home-learning environment with an adequate Internet connection and learning support,

Recognizing that, while digital and new technologies offer many positive opportunities for children, they also present new risks and threats that should be addressed, including cyberbullying and child exploitation and abuse,

Deeply concerned that increased unsupervised use of digital technologies by parents or legal guardians, inter alia during the COVID-19 pandemic, has exacerbated children's exposure to the risk of all forms of violence and harassment, including in digital contexts, inter alia peer-to-peer sexual harassment and cyberbullying, child sexual exploitation and abuse, child grooming, trafficking in persons, hate speech, stigmatization, racism, xenophobia and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination,

Recognizing also the need to foster a policy of zero tolerance for all forms of violence against children in the digital environment, in a manner consistent with the obligations of Member States, under international human rights law,

Recognizing further the importance of protecting children from online risks and harm, including from cyberbullying, through the development of their digital literacy and skills, as well as those of their parents or legal guardians, including by empowering children to report and seek help in responding to online threats in adequate ways, as well as raising their awareness of the risks of the misuse of information and communications technologies,

Recognizing the importance of generating appropriate statistical information and data on bullying, including, whenever possible, cyberbullying, disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts,

Recognizing also that children exercising their right to education, including through the use of information and communications technologies, should not have their safety affected and should be protected from any violation or abuse of their right to privacy, and in this regard emphasizing that efforts to expand connectivity and digital learning and bridging the digital divide, including the gender digital divide, should give special regard to the protection of children,

Concerned about the occurrence of bullying in all parts of the world and the fact that children who are victimized by such practices may be at heightened risk of compromising their health, emotional well-being and academic work and of a wide range of physical and/or mental health conditions, as well as potential long-term effects on the individual's ability to realize his or her own potential,

Concerned also that bullying, including cyberbullying, is associated with long-lasting consequences that continue on into adulthood,

Deeply concerned at the different forms of bullying, including the use, threats associated with the use, sharing or dissemination of personal sexually explicit content, such as photographs or videos, whether real or simulated content, including peer pressure to create or disseminate such content, as well as the short- and long-term repercussions for the victim as a result of such actions,

Noting with concern that children who are marginalized or in vulnerable situations, who face stigmatization, discrimination or exclusion, are disproportionately affected by bullying, both online and offline,

Recognizing that bullying often includes a gender dimension and can be associated with sexual and gender-based violence, stereotyping and negative social norms that affect all boys and girls,

Noting the risks associated with the use of information and communications technologies and applications, including increased vulnerability to bullying, while stressing that they can create new ways to enhance education and, inter alia, foster learning and teaching on the rights of the child and can be useful tools to promote children's protection, including with appropriate guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the best interests of the child as a primary consideration,

Noting also the role that information and communications technologies play in reducing the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse, including by empowering children to report such abuses,

Noting further the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on the issue of the protection of children from bullying, including cyberbullying,

Taking note of the Guidelines on Child Online Protection launched by the International Telecommunication Union in 2020, which provide guidance to relevant stakeholders, including children, parents and educators, the private sector and policymakers, on the development of a safe and empowering online environment for children and young people, including with regard to the prevention of and protection from cyberbullying,

Recalling the obligations of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to ensure that parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child, as well as to take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child, and recognizing that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

Acknowledging the distinct and important roles that parents, legal guardians, schools, civil society, sports and cultural associations, youth organizations, communities, private actors and business enterprises, State institutions and traditional and non-traditional media each play in securing children's protection from the risks associated with bullying, including cyberbullying, and in preventing all forms of violence, including by promoting children's online safety,

Recognizing that early childhood is a critical stage for cognitive, emotional and behavioural development and that the parent-child relationship is a significant factor in predicting, preventing and eliminating all forms of violence and harassment, including bullying behaviour in adolescents, as well as the existing evidence of a link between domestic violence and bullying in educational settings,

Emphasizing that evidence-based initiatives to strengthen children's life skills and respect for human rights, tolerance, concern for others and the responsibility to foster safety, as well as whole-school and whole-community programmes that fully respect all human rights and help to prevent and address bullying, constitute best practices that should be developed, strengthened and shared through international cooperation,

Acknowledging that children are uniquely placed to inform effective solutions and responses to bullying, including cyberbullying, and underlining that children's participation and their contributions, including their views and recommendations, therefore need to be at the centre of efforts to prevent and address bullying and that their effective and meaningful participation is critical to clearly understand and effectively address bullying and its impacts,

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children[226] and the annual report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, including child prostitution, child pornography and other child sexual abuse material;[227]

2. *Affirms* that human rights and fundamental freedoms must be protected, online and offline, with special regard for the rights of the child;

3. *Calls upon* Member States:

(a) To continue to take all appropriate measures to prevent and protect children, including in and out of school, both in person and in digital contexts, from all forms of violence, such as bullying, including cyberbullying, by promptly responding to such acts, and to provide appropriate support to children affected by and involved in bullying;

(b) To continue to promote and invest in education, including as a long-term and lifelong process by which everyone learns tolerance and respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring such respect in all societies;

(c) To invest in digital literacy and regulations that ensure children's privacy, data protection and safety online and to protect children from online child sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as other online harms;

[226] A/77/221.

[227] A/77/140.

(d) To address, through necessary measures, the wider economic and social inequalities that may contribute to bullying, including cyberbullying, including poverty, gender norms and stereotypes, taking into account that risk factors are mixed and vary depending on country and context;

(e) To develop and implement, as appropriate, measures and restorative practices to repair harm, restore relationships, avoid recidivism, promote the accountability of perpetrators and change aggressive behaviour;

(f) To generate and analyse statistical information and data disaggregated by sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, and to provide information on disability, with regard to the problem of bullying, including cyberbullying, as a basis on which to elaborate effective public policies;

(g) To adopt and strengthen, as appropriate, clear and comprehensive measures, including, where relevant, legislation to prevent and protect children from bullying, including cyberbullying and the dissemination of personal sexually explicit content, and provide for safe and child-sensitive counselling and reporting procedures and safeguards for the rights of affected children;

(h) To ensure that child protection, including social protection and gender-sensitive mental health services, is recognized as essential and that it continues to be provided and be accessible and available to all children at all times, including during lockdowns, quarantines and other types of confinement and public health measures;

(i) To strengthen the capacities of schools and the skills of educators and professionals working with children in early detection and response to prevent and respond to bullying, including cyberbullying, in particular initiatives to mobilize support to prevent and address this phenomenon, and to ensure that children are informed of any existing public policies to secure their protection;

(j) To continue to raise public awareness, involving family members, parents, legal guardians, caregivers, young people, schools, formal and non-formal and in-person and digital education settings, communities, community leaders, the media, sports organizations, athletes and coaches, as well as civil society organizations, including youth organizations, with the participation of children, regarding the protection of children from bullying;

(k) To develop accessible parenting and other skills programmes for parents, legal guardians, caregivers and family members, together with social protection interventions that help to tackle gender stereotypes and negative social norms that contribute to violence against children and bullying, and that help to promote a nurturing family environment, reduce the risk of social exclusion and deprivation and reduce children's potential exposure to violence at home that might be caused by, inter alia, school closures, confinement, movement restrictions, disruption of the provision of child protection services, or added family stress related to job loss and isolation;

(l) To involve and provide children with the opportunity to participate effectively in the development of initiatives to prevent and address bullying, including available support services and safe, accessible, age- and child-sensitive, confidential and independent counselling and reporting mechanisms, to guide them in promoting inclusive and responsible digital behaviour and to inform them of available mental and physical health-care services and procedures in place to support them, where they exist, and encourages Member States to make such support services available, as much as possible;

(m) To pay particular attention to children in vulnerable situations, including through efforts to promote mutual respect and tolerance for diversity in order to combat stigmatization, racism, xenophobia, hate speech, discrimination or exclusion;

(n) To continue to share national experiences and best practices for preventing and tackling bullying, including cyberbullying;

4. *Encourages* Member States to continue to share with the Secretary-General, through existing processes and mechanisms, information about any initiatives undertaken at the national or subnational level to prevent and address bullying, including cyberbullying, to promote peaceful social interaction with a view to assessing progress, and to make use of the results achieved;

5. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to adopt appropriate measures, such as plans of action on the prevention of and response to bullying, including cyberbullying, to implement them effectively and to assess progress in children's protection, drawing on the experience of Member States, the United Nations, regional organizations, academia and civil society actors;

6. *Urges* Member States to ensure that all schools are free from violence, such as bullying, including cyberbullying, and peer-to-peer sexual harassment in digital contexts, and that they address all forms of violence against children, with particular attention given to girls;

7. *Calls upon* Member States, with assistance from relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support victims and survivors of bullying with access to evidence-based, quality programmes, care and counselling for their physical, psychological and social recovery, as well as psychological care and trauma counselling, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

8. *Recognizes* that the responsibility to respect the rights of the child also applies to private actors and business enterprises, and in particular encourages private actors in the technology sector who provide or operate services across domestic jurisdictions to adhere to the highest available international standards and best practices for safety, privacy and security by design, taking into account the particular needs of children and youth, and to continue to take part in international multi-stakeholder efforts to raise awareness and empower children about online risks and to prevent and counter cyberbullying;

9. *Welcomes* the continued collaboration of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children with human rights bodies and mechanisms, within their respective mandates, including the special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, in order to support efforts to prevent and address all forms of violence against children in all settings, such as bullying, including cyberbullying;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General to facilitate further international efforts, in collaboration with Member States, to continue to raise awareness of the impact of bullying, including cyberbullying, on the basis of evidence, including through existing initiatives of United Nations specialized agencies, funds and programmes;

11. *Invites* the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to include information relevant to her mandate on the progress achieved in the protection of children from bullying, including cyberbullying, in her report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions and to the Human Rights Council;

12. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children".

RESOLUTION 77/202

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/459, para. 23)[228]

77/202. Child, early and forced marriage

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 69/156 of 18 December 2014, 71/175 of 19 December 2016, 73/153 of 17 December 2018 and 75/167 of 16 December 2020 on child, early and forced marriage,

Recalling its resolutions 76/146 of 16 December 2021 on the girl child and 75/161 of 23 December 2020 on the intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, as well as Human

[228] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Rights Council resolution 48/6 of 8 October 2021, entitled "Child, early and forced marriage in times of crisis, including the COVID-19 pandemic",[229] and all other previous resolutions relating to child, early and forced marriage,

Guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[230] as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[231] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[232] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[233] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[234] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[235] together with the relevant Optional Protocols thereto,[236] as well as other relevant human rights instruments, and recalling the Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages,[237]

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[238] as well as the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[239] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[240] and the outcome documents of their review conferences,

Taking note of the relevant agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[241] noting the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda and the range of Goals and targets relevant to eliminating child, early and forced marriage, including target 5.3, and its pledge to leave no one behind, and recommitting to endeavouring to reach the furthest behind first and to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, as well as their attainment and full enjoyment of all human rights, which are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development,

Taking note with appreciation of the ongoing United Nations Population Fund and United Nations Children's Fund Global Programme to End Child Marriage, as well as international, regional, national and subnational instruments, mechanisms and initiatives to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, including the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage, the Regional Action Plan to End Child Marriage in South Asia, the Joint Inter-Agency Programme to End Child Marriage and Early Unions in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Southern African Development Community Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage, and further encouraging coordinated and comprehensive approaches to action at all levels and across sectors,

Recognizing that child, early and forced marriage is a harmful practice that violates, abuses or impairs human rights and is linked to and perpetuates other harmful practices and human rights violations and that such violations have a disproportionately negative impact on women and girls, particularly those living in vulnerable situations and hard-to-reach areas, putting them, inter alia, at heightened risk of sexual and gender-based violence, threatening girls' education and future economic opportunities as well as their physical and mental health, and underscoring the human rights obligations and commitments of States to respect, promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all women and girls and to prevent and eliminate the practice of child, early and forced marriage,

Reaffirming that marriage shall be entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses;

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[229] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/76/53/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[230] Resolution 217 A (III).

[231] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[232] Ibid.

[233] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[234] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[235] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[236] Ibid., vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531; ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378; and ibid., vol. 2518, No. 44910.

[237] Ibid., vol. 521, No. 7525.

[238] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[239] *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.

[240] *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.

[241] Resolution 70/1.

Recognizing that social protection, access to quality education in a safe environment, a strong social work system, meaningful participation and inclusion in decision-making, quality health-care services, nutrition, full access to clean water, including safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, including menstrual health and hygiene and affordable menstrual products, skills development and the combating of all forms of discrimination and violence against girls, among other things, are all necessary for the empowerment of the girl child,

Expressing concern that despite the recent progress made globally towards ending child, early and forced marriage, including a decrease of 15 per cent in the proportion of girls who were married before the age of 18 in the past decade, progress has been uneven across regions, both between and within countries, and that existing data show that, at the current pace of progress, target 5.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals, which involves ending the practice by 2030, will not be met in any region of the world,

Noting with concern that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has undermined the hard-won gains achieved on ending harmful practices, including child, early and forced marriage, and continues to compromise the ability of Member States to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, including target 5.3, by 2030,

Noting that the current pace of change is not sufficient to eliminate child, early and forced marriage by 2030, where, in addition to the 12 million child, early and forced marriages that occur every year, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic are projected to result in more than 13 million additional cases of child, early and forced marriage that otherwise would have been averted by 2030, with girls from poor households, rural and remote areas, those living in humanitarian situations and those who have dropped out of formal education particularly at risk,

Recognizing that global health threats, climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental degradation, more frequent and intense natural disasters, armed conflicts, violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, and related humanitarian emergencies and the forced displacement of people have particularly negative impacts on women and girls, including those with disabilities, while recognizing also that poverty, including the feminization of poverty, insecurity, early and unintended pregnancy and lack of access to quality education are also among the root causes of child, early and forced marriage,

Recognizing also that, in some contexts, the practice of child, early and forced marriage may include arrangements that are not formalized, registered or recognized by a religious or State authority, that such arrangements should be addressed in policies and programmes on child, early and forced marriage and that the gathering of information on these arrangements will help to develop responses for affected girls and women,

Noting with concern that deep-rooted gender discrimination, inequalities and stereotypes, harmful practices, perceptions and customs, patriarchal attitudes and structures and discriminatory social norms that consider women and girls to be inferior to men and boys are not only obstacles to the full enjoyment of human rights and the empowerment of all women and girls, but are also among the root causes of child, early and forced marriage, and that the persistence of child, early and forced marriage places children, in particular girls, at greater risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence throughout their lives,

Noting with concern also that child, early and forced marriage remains common in rural areas and among the poorest communities and has increased among the poorest communities over the past decade, and acknowledging the correlation between child, early and forced marriage and economic insecurity, poverty and lack of income opportunities and that the immediate alleviation and eradication of extreme poverty must remain a high priority for the international community,

Recognizing that child, early and forced marriage is underrecognized and underreported and often coincides with impunity and lack of accountability, particularly at the community level, and that the persistence of child, early and forced marriage places women and girls at greater risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence throughout their lives, including marital rape and sexual, physical and psychological violence, and reinforces the lower status of girls and adolescent girls in society,

Recognizing also that child, early and forced marriage is a major impediment to the achievement of the economic empowerment of women and their social and economic development, including through the disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work shouldered by girls and women, thereby hampering the ability of women to enter, advance and remain in the labour market, and that this harmful practice can impede economic independence and impose direct and indirect short- and long-term costs on society, and recognizing further that the economic autonomy of women can expand their options for leaving abusive and violent relationships,

Recognizing further that child, early and forced marriage undermines women's and girls' autonomy and decision-making in all aspects of their lives and that the empowerment of and investment in all women and girls, as well as the strengthening of their voice, agency, leadership and full and meaningful participation in all decisions that affect them, are key factors in breaking the cycle of gender inequality and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, violence and poverty and are critical, inter alia, for sustainable development, peace, security, democracy and inclusive economic growth,

Bearing in mind the crucial importance of civil registration and vital statistics, including births, deaths and marriages, for the realization of the human rights of individuals, especially girls,

Recognizing that men and boys, who also benefit from gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, should play a role as strategic partners and allies of women and girls, including by supporting women and girls at risk, and that their meaningful engagement can contribute to eliminating discriminatory social norms that perpetuate gender-based violence, as well as harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage, ending this practice and achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and the full enjoyment of all their human rights,

Recognizing also that families, communities and religious, traditional and community leaders have an essential role to play in eliminating negative social norms and harmful traditional or customary practices and confronting gender inequality, and recognizing further that empowering girls, including already married girls, requires their active and meaningful participation in decision-making processes in all matters affecting them and as agents of change in their own lives and communities, including through women's organizations and girls-led organizations, with the active support and engagement of their parents, legal guardians, families and care providers, boys and men, as well as the wider community,

Recognizing further the need to support girls and women who were subjected to child, early and forced marriage, as well as their children, and underscoring the importance of removing structural barriers that prevent their access to services that respond to their specific needs,

Expressing deep concern that child, early and forced marriage disproportionally affects girls who have had minimal, disrupted or no access to formal and informal education and is itself a significant obstacle to educational opportunities and the development of employable and life skills for girls and young women, in particular girls who are forced to drop out of school owing to pregnancy, marriage, childbirth and/or childcare and other unpaid care and domestic work responsibilities, as well as stigma relating to menstruation, gender stereotypes and negative social norms that confine married women and girls to the home, and that educational possibilities and opportunities are directly related to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the full enjoyment of all their human rights, women's employment and economic opportunities and their full, effective, equal and meaningful participation in economic, social and cultural development, governance and decision-making,

Acknowledging that, during the COVID-19 pandemic, girls, particularly adolescents, including those who are among the poorest, those living in rural and remote areas and those in vulnerable situations, are at particular risk of dropping out and not returning to school even as education facilities reopen, thereby increasing their vulnerability to poverty, child, early and forced marriage, all forms of violence, including sexual violence, and early pregnancy,

Noting with concern that, owing to school closures, the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the digital divides, both between and within countries, including the gender digital divide and vast disparities in the availability of learning materials, including access to the Internet and communication devices, particularly for rural and remote communities, while recognizing that with the increased reliance on virtual learning, many schools, especially in developing countries, lack adequate technology and equipment to provide online teaching, which leads to limited access or lack of access to quality education for many children, particularly girls, further increasing their vulnerability to child, early and forced marriage,

Recognizing that although digital technologies can offer increasing opportunities and benefits, the increased reliance on virtual learning and the challenges faced by children in accessing the Internet and digital devices, including lack of equipment and digital literacy skills, can limit access to quality education and increase inequalities between and within countries, with internally displaced children, refugees, migrants, those living in humanitarian situations as well as those with disabilities and those living in rural and remote areas and from the poorest households being the most affected,

Noting with concern that, despite gains in providing access to education, girls are still more likely than boys to remain excluded from primary and secondary education, and recognizing that the attendance of girls at school can be

affected by negative perceptions of menstruation and lack of means to maintain safe personal hygiene, such as water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in schools that meet the needs of girls,

Recognizing that child, early and forced marriage remains a serious threat to multiple aspects of the physical and psychological health of women and girls, including but not limited to their sexual and reproductive health, significantly increasing the risk of early, frequent and unintended pregnancy, maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, obstetric fistula and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV and AIDS, as well as increasing vulnerability to all forms of violence,

Recognizing also that the incidence and risk of child, early and forced marriage are highly exacerbated during humanitarian emergencies, situations of forced displacement, armed conflict, public health emergencies and natural disasters because of various factors, including insecurity, increased risks of sexual and gender-based violence, the misconception of providing protection through marriage, gender inequality, lack of access to continuous, inclusive and equitable quality education, the stigmatization of pregnancy outside marriage, the absence of family planning services, disruption in social networks and routines, increased poverty and the absence of livelihood opportunities, and that this requires increased attention, appropriate protection measures and coordinated action by relevant stakeholders, with the full and meaningful participation of the women and girls affected, from the early stages of humanitarian emergencies, and recognizing further the importance of addressing the increased vulnerability of women and girls to sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation in those situations,

Recognizing further that preventing and ending child, early and forced marriage and supporting married girls and women affected by this harmful practice require appropriate gender-responsive and age-sensitive protection, prevention and response measures, as well as coordinated action by relevant stakeholders, and that existing gaps in the collection and use of reliable data and evidence remain a major challenge for programming and informing appropriate measures and actions,

Recognizing that research initiatives and data collection at the global, regional, national and subnational levels provide critical information on child, early and forced marriage and how trends related to child, early and forced marriage change over time,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[242]

2. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and to reach the furthest behind first, and emphasizes the commitment to get back onto a track of accelerated progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including target 5.3, noting that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and their full enjoyment of their human rights will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets, while reiterating that States will not be able to achieve the ambitious Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda without a revitalized and enhanced Global Partnership and comparably ambitious means of implementation;

3. *Calls upon* States, with the participation of relevant stakeholders, including women and girls, men and boys, parents and other family members, teachers, religious, traditional and community leaders, civil society, organizations led by girls, women's organizations, youth and human rights groups, the media and the private sector, to develop and implement holistic, comprehensive and coordinated age- and gender-responsive, victim-centred and multisectoral responses and strategies that respect human rights to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, to support girls and women who are affected or at risk, who have fled such a marriage or whose marriage has dissolved, and widowed girls or women who were married as girls, including through the strengthening of child protection systems, social work programmes, protection mechanisms such as safe shelters, mental health and psychosocial support services, empowerment and livelihood support, community sensitization, family reunification, access to justice and the sharing of best practices across borders;

4. *Also calls upon* States to develop and implement measures at all levels to end child, early and forced marriage, including national and subnational action plans where appropriate, and to make adequate resources, including financing, available across relevant sectors, including health, nutrition, sanitation, shelter, protection, governance and education;

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[242] A/77/282.

5. *Urges* States to enact, enforce and uphold laws and policies aimed at preventing and ending child, early and forced marriage, protecting those at risk and addressing the needs of those affected, and work towards the coherence of these laws and policies at the local level, to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the informed, free and full consent of the intending spouses;

6. *Calls upon* States to enact, enforce and uphold laws concerning a minimum age of marriage, to monitor their application and to progressively amend laws with lower minimum ages of marriage and/or ages of majority to 18 and engage all relevant authorities to ensure that these laws are well known;

7. *Urges* States to repeal or amend laws and remove any provisions that enable perpetrators of rape, sexual exploitation and abuse or abduction to escape prosecution and punishment by marrying their victims and that may enable, justify, or lead to child, early and forced marriage, and to engage traditional and religious leaders, among others, to eliminate traditional practices that resolve sexual violence incidents through marriage;

8. *Calls upon* States to strengthen their efforts to ensure the timely registration of births and marriages, especially for individuals living in rural and remote areas, including by identifying and removing all physical, administrative, procedural and any other barriers that impede access to registration and by providing, where lacking, mechanisms for the registration of customary and religious marriages, as well as working to ensure that the registration of births and marriages remains accessible in emergencies or is re-established as quickly as possible when affected;

9. *Also calls upon* States to promote the full and meaningful participation of and active consultation with children and adolescents, including those who are hardest to reach and already married girls, on all issues affecting them and to raise awareness about their rights, including the negative impact of child, early and forced marriage, through safe spaces, forums and support networks, including in digital spaces, that provide accessible information, life skills, inclusive and equitable quality education, and leadership skills training and opportunities, including catch-up and literacy education, and lifelong learning opportunities, remote learning opportunities and childcare, as needed, to be empowered, to express themselves, to participate meaningfully in all decisions that affect them and to become agents of change within their communities;

10. *Further calls upon* States to promote awareness-raising about the harmful effects of child, early and forced marriage on the individual and wider society and the benefits of ending this harmful practice, including through open dialogue with all stakeholders, including girls and boys, women and men, religious, traditional and community leaders, parents, legal guardians and other family members, to work with local communities to combat negative social norms and gender stereotypes that condone child, early and forced marriage, to empower parents and communities to abandon the practice and to empower all women and girls to make informed decisions about their lives;

11. *Recognizes* that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding and that parents or, as the case may be, legal guardians have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child, acknowledging the need to support their capacity to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, and reaffirming that the best interests of the child will be their basic concern;

12. *Urges* Governments, while addressing child, early and forced marriage, to confront family poverty and social exclusion through investing in family-oriented policies addressing the multidimensional aspects of poverty, focusing on education, health, employment, social security, livelihoods and social cohesion, paying special attention to gender-sensitive social protection measures, child allowances for parents and pension benefits for older persons and protecting, supporting and empowering children, including girls, in child-headed households;

13. *Also urges* Governments, with the collaboration of relevant stakeholders, to tackle poverty, including the feminization of poverty, lack of economic opportunities for women throughout their life course and other entrenched economic incentives that act as drivers of child, early and forced marriage, including by ensuring the rights of all women and girls to inheritance and property, without discrimination of any kind, including in relation to marital status, their equal access with men and boys to social protection, childcare services and direct financial services, to support the right of girls to receive and continue their education, including through their continued enrolment in school during pregnancy and re-enrolment in school after childbirth, to develop livelihood opportunities through access to inclusive and equitable quality education, including technical and vocational education, and training and life skills education, including entrepreneurship and financial and digital literacy, and to promote freedom of movement, women's equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, including waged and salaried work, as well as equal political participation and rights to inherit and own land;

14. *Urges* Member States to ensure access to services and education for women who were married in childhood and for girls who are married, are pregnant or are mothers;

15. *Encourages* States to respect, protect, promote and fulfil the human rights of already married girls and women affected by this harmful practice, to promote equality in all aspects of marriage and its dissolution and to address their specific needs, such as through targeted and tailored programmes, including social work programmes, that provide social services to protect them from sexual and gender-based violence, increase their decision-making power, make it easier for them to seek formal employment, increase their economic independence and financial literacy, access quality education, skills development programmes and lifelong learning opportunities, ensure their equal access to health-care services and information and decrease their social isolation, including by establishing or strengthening childcare services and working with communities to change discriminatory social norms;

16. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect the right of women and girls to equal access to education through enhanced emphasis on free and quality primary and secondary education, including catch-up and literacy education for those who have not received formal education, have left school early or were forced to leave school, including because of marriage, pregnancy, childbirth and/or childcare responsibilities, which empowers young women and girls to make informed decisions about their lives, employment, economic opportunities and health, including through scientifically accurate and age-appropriate comprehensive education that is relevant to cultural contexts, that provides adolescent girls and boys and young women and men, in and out of school, consistent with their evolving capacities, and with appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the best interests of the child as their basic concern, information on sexual and reproductive health and HIV prevention, gender equality and the empowerment of women, human rights, physical, psychological and pubertal development and power in relationships between women and men, to enable them to build self-esteem and foster informed decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills and to develop respectful relationships, in full partnership with young persons, parents, legal guardians, caregivers, educators and health-care providers, in order to contribute to ending child, early and forced marriage;

17. *Recognizes* that education is one of the most effective ways to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage and to help married women and girls to make informed decisions about their lives, and urges States to remove barriers to education, including by investing in quality primary and secondary education for every child in a safe environment, through adequate financing, ensuring that married girls and boys, pregnant girls and women and young parents continue to have access to schooling, improving access to quality formal education and skills development, especially for those living in remote or insecure areas, improving the safety of girls at and on the way to and from school, providing safe and adequate sanitation, including for menstrual hygiene management, adopting and implementing laws and policies to prohibit, prevent and address violence and to hold perpetrators accountable, strengthening and intensifying their efforts to implement effective violence prevention and response activities in schools and communities, engaging men and boys, community leaders and parents, educating children from a young age regarding their human rights and the importance of treating all people with dignity and respect and designing educational programmes and teaching materials that support respectful relationships, non-violent behaviours, gender equality and empowerment of women and girls;

18. *Encourages* States to mitigate the impact of past and present school closures, particularly for those learners who are among the poorest and in vulnerable situations, especially girls, and to continue to strengthen the protection of schools, making them free from all forms of violence, bearing in mind that special measures to ensure equal access contribute to achieving equal opportunity and combating exclusion by eliminating social, economic and gender disparities in education and ensuring school attendance, in particular for girls, children with disabilities, pregnant adolescent girls, children living in poverty, Indigenous children, children of African descent, children living with HIV/AIDS, persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities, migrant children, children living in rural or remote areas and children in vulnerable situations;

19. *Calls upon* States to pursue efforts and ensure greater connectivity to bridge the digital divides in access to the Internet, both between and within countries, and the gender digital divide in school and learning opportunities, with greater accessibility for the most affected girls and women, such as those who live in rural and remote areas or refugee camps or those who come from lower-income households and girls with disabilities, and address all forms of violence and discrimination against all women and girls in digital contexts;

20. *Calls upon* Member States, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and other health-related global challenges, building on previous experience, to ensure that school closures are a last resort and are proportionate to

wider public health restrictions and that girls are protected and supported in returning to school once it is deemed safe to do so, and in this regard calls upon Member States and other relevant stakeholders to take the appropriate measures in order to ensure proper training of teachers and other educational professionals and the availability of and access to learning materials and remote learning platforms during the pandemic, and to bridge the digital divide, including barriers such as poor access to connectivity, lack of affordability of connection and devices, digital illiteracy, limited digital skills, absence of locally relevant digital content, and gender stereotypes and negative social norms, in order to provide distance learning opportunities, inter alia, Internet, television and radio teaching alternatives, especially in developing countries;

21. *Encourages* States to adopt, as appropriate, and implement inclusive policies and programmes to promote technical and vocational training and skills development and lifelong learning opportunities, including in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and in information and communications technology, as well as higher educational opportunities for women and girls, including those at risk of or affected by child, early and forced marriage, so as to enable them to gain the knowledge, attitudes and skills that they need to fulfil their full potential;

22. *Urges* States to address the root causes of gender inequality, including gender stereotypes and negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours, the socioeconomic drivers of violence and unequal power relations in which women and girls are viewed as subordinate to men and boys, which perpetuate child, early and forced marriage, by developing and implementing, inter alia, robust and comprehensive interventions addressing the gender inequality and social norms that underlie the practice and awareness-raising programmes that provide accurate information about the negative impact of child, early and forced marriage on women and girls and society at large, including through social media, the Internet and community communication and dissemination tools;

23. *Urges* Governments to promote, respect and protect the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health through the development and enforcement of policies and legal frameworks and the strengthening of health systems, including health information systems, that make universally accessible and available quality, gender-responsive, adolescent-friendly health services, sexual and reproductive health-care services, information and commodities, HIV and AIDS prevention, testing, treatment and care, mental health services and nutrition interventions and prevention, treatment of and care for obstetric fistula and other obstetric complications by providing the continuum of services, including family planning, prenatal and postnatal care, skilled birth attendance, emergency obstetric care and post-partum care;

24. *Also urges* Governments to promote and protect the human rights of all women and girls, including the right of women, and those girls who have been subjected to child, early and forced marriage, to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, and to adopt and accelerate the implementation of laws, policies and programmes that protect and enable the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences;

25. *Urges* States to formulate or review, as needed, appropriate policies, programmes or strategies in order to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, and address multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence, including domestic violence, which may occur against women and girls subjected to child, early and forced marriage, as well as strengthen child protection systems and social work programmes through gender-responsive and age-sensitive policies and provide targets and timetables for implementation, while paying special attention to girls with disabilities, Indigenous girls and girls in vulnerable situations, including girls facing social and economic exclusion, and those living in rural and remote areas;

26. *Also urges* States to uphold the human rights of all women and girls with disabilities, and recognizes that disability can increase the risk of child, early and forced marriage, and the importance of ensuring that services and programmes designed to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage are inclusive of, accessible to and proactively engage with women and girls with disabilities;

27. *Further urges* States to ensure access to justice and accountability mechanisms and remedies for the effective implementation and enforcement of laws aimed at preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage, including by working towards the elimination of loopholes in customary laws, where they exist, and by informing women, girls and boys about their rights under relevant laws, including in marriage and at its dissolution, improving legal infrastructure, removing all barriers to access to legal counselling, assistance and remedies, training

law enforcement officers, the judiciary and professionals working with women and children and ensuring oversight of the handling of cases of child, early and forced marriage;

28. *Calls upon* States, with the collaboration of relevant stakeholders, to ensure that COVID-19 response measures and future emergency response and recovery plans are comprehensive, participatory, age- and gender-sensitive and adequately funded, promote inclusive, gender-equal and sustainable economies and societies, and eliminate inequality and exclusion and poverty, which are among the root causes of child, early and forced marriage;

29. *Also calls upon* States to mitigate the impact of emergencies and improve on response measures by strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders working at the local and national levels, which are often best placed to reach communities, to continue their essential work with girls, families and local communities to prevent and respond to child, early and forced marriage, particularly those working with communities in vulnerable situations;

30. *Further calls upon* States to monitor the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on the prevalence of child, early and forced marriage in relation to changes in gender roles, including in domestic work, non-return to school, hindered access to services, rates of early, frequent and unintended pregnancy and the economic situation of families;

31. *Calls upon* States to recognize, reduce and redistribute women's and girls' disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work, including by making efforts to change gender roles in domestic work and care responsibilities, and tackle the feminization of poverty, which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and to address all forms of discrimination and gender inequality, including gender stereotypes and negative social norms, attitudes and behaviours and unequal power relations in which women and girls are viewed as subordinate to men and boys, that are at the root of these imbalances;

32. *Also calls upon* States to develop and implement, in consultation with and with the full, effective, equal and meaningful participation of women and, as appropriate, girls, and integrate into humanitarian responses, from the early stages of humanitarian emergencies, measures to address the increased vulnerability of women and girls, particularly adolescent girls, to child, early and forced marriage, and to protect women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence and exploitation during humanitarian emergencies, situations of forced displacement, armed conflict, natural disasters and public health emergencies, including by ensuring their access to such services as health, education and child protection, as well as strengthening follow-up and interventions to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage in humanitarian settings, as well as to address the needs of those affected and to ensure that the provision of essential services during emergencies respects the rights of girls and women and is addressed in national response plans, including life skills education, gender-sensitive mental health and psychosocial support services, as well as health and information services, including sexual and reproductive health-care services;

33. *Urges* States to recognize and promote awareness of the disproportionate and distinct effects of climate change, environmental degradation and disasters on women and girls, in particular those with disabilities and those facing violence, discrimination and displacement, harmful practices, including child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, and insecurity of land tenure, income and food, and ensure that policies and programmes reflect these impacts, and take targeted action to strengthen the resilience and adaptive capacities of all women and girls, including in cities and tropical, arctic, coastal, mountainous, rural and remote areas;

34. *Calls upon* States to take a comprehensive, rights-based, age- and gender-responsive, survivor-centred and multisectoral approach that takes into account linkages with other harmful practices in the prevention of and response to child, early and forced marriage in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and other multidimensional challenges such as humanitarian situations, climate change and natural disasters, and to pay particular attention to the specific needs of all women and girls, in particular those in vulnerable situations and those experiencing various forms of violence, discrimination, stigmatization, exclusion and inequalities, including in humanitarian situations, in terms of, inter alia, access to essential services such as safe spaces and shelters, access to social work services and family reunification, as well as access to other social protection services, health-care services, safe and affordable drinking water and adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, including menstrual hygiene, as well as access to education, including early childhood education and lifelong learning, and to timely registration of births and marriages;

35. *Also calls upon* States to pay particular attention to the specific needs of children, especially adolescent girls, who are more likely to be subjected to child, early and forced marriage, in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic at all levels, and promoting their effective and meaningful participation in decisions that affect them, by

prioritizing the provision of child- and adolescent-centred services, with a focus on equitable access, particularly in relation to schooling, nutrition programmes, immunization, maternal and newborn care, and child protection programmes;

36. *Further calls upon* States to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on families and communities by, inter alia, expanding programmes that protect them against economic shocks, including poverty eradication measures, labour policies, public services and gender-responsive social protection programmes;

37. *Calls upon* States to ensure uninterrupted access to and funding for essential health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health-care services, and to safe and affordable drinking water and adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all, including menstrual hygiene, and including in disadvantaged areas such as rural communities, informal settlements and humanitarian settings;

38. *Encourages* relevant United Nations entities and agencies, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, civil society and other relevant actors and human rights mechanisms to continue to collaborate among themselves and with Member States in developing and implementing strategies and policies at the national, regional and international levels to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, as well as to support those who were married as children;

39. *Encourages* relevant United Nations entities and agencies, regional and subregional organizations, the international financial institutions, civil society and other relevant actors and human rights mechanisms to continue to collaborate with Member States and national statistical agencies in order to assist in strengthening and building capacity for data and reporting systems for analysing, monitoring and publicly reporting on progress to end child, early and forced marriage based on evidence and addressing data gaps, where they may exist, especially on girls with disabilities;

40. *Affirms* the need for States and relevant United Nations entities and agencies to improve the safe and ethical collection and use of quantitative, qualitative and comparable data on violence against women and girls and on harmful practices, including on those hardest to reach, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, civil status, race, ethnicity, migratory status, geographical location, socioeconomic status, education level and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, as appropriate, to identify and focus action, decision-making, policies and programmes on those furthest behind, to enhance research and dissemination of evidence-based and good practices relating to the prevention and elimination of child, early and forced marriage and to strengthen monitoring and impact assessment of existing policies and programmes as a means of ensuring their effectiveness and implementation;

41. *Encourages* the international community to fulfil its commitment in supporting developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data while ensuring national ownership in supporting and tracking progress, including in the context of child, early and forced marriage;

42. *Encourages* Governments to include information on progress towards eliminating child, early and forced marriage, including best practices and implementation efforts, in their national reports to relevant international treaty bodies and the universal periodic review and within the national voluntary reviews conducted through the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly, based on evidence, before the end of its seventy-eighth session, on progress towards ending child, early and forced marriage worldwide as well as best practices for programmes aimed at ending the practice and supporting already married girls and women affected by this practice, including girls' and women's empowerment programmes, gaps in funding, research and data collection, using information provided by Member States, United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, civil society and other relevant stakeholders;

44. *Decides* to consider the issue of child, early and forced marriage at its seventy-ninth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", taking into account the multifaceted and worldwide nature of this issue.

RESOLUTION 77/203

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/460, para. 10)[243]

77/203. Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The General Assembly,

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and the Economic and Social Council relating to the rights of Indigenous Peoples, reaffirming its resolutions 65/198 of 21 December 2010, 66/142 of 19 December 2011, 67/153 of 20 December 2012, 68/149 of 18 December 2013, 69/2 of 22 September 2014, 69/159 of 18 December 2014, 70/232 of 23 December 2015, 71/178 of 19 December 2016, 71/321 of 8 September 2017, 72/155 of 19 December 2017, 72/247 of 24 December 2017, 73/156 of 17 December 2018, 74/135 of 18 December 2019, 75/168 of 16 December 2020 and 76/148 of 16 December 2021, and recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 27/13 of 25 September 2014,[244] 30/4 of 1 October 2015,[245] 33/12 and 33/13 of 29 September 2016,[246] 36/14 of 28 September 2017,[247] 39/13 of 28 September 2018,[248] 42/19 of 26 September 2019,[249] 45/12 of 6 October 2020,[250] 48/11 of 8 October 2021[251] and 51/18 of 6 October 2022,[252]

Reaffirming the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[253] which addresses the individual and collective rights of Indigenous Peoples and has positively influenced the drafting of several constitutions and statutes at the national and local levels and contributed to the progressive development of international and national legal frameworks and policies,

Recalling the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held in New York on 22 and 23 September 2014,[254] in which Heads of State and Government, ministers and representatives of Member States reiterated the important and continuing role of the United Nations in promoting and protecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples, recalling also the inclusive preparatory process for the high-level plenary meeting, including the comprehensive engagement of the representatives of Indigenous Peoples, and welcoming and reaffirming the commitments, measures and efforts undertaken by States, the United Nations system, Indigenous Peoples and other actors in its implementation,

Encouraging the active engagement of Indigenous Peoples in the implementation of the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, including at the regional and global levels, and inviting the General Assembly to consider holding a follow-up World Conference on Indigenous Peoples to enable follow-up on the implementation of the outcome document,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[255] and stressing the need to ensure that no one is left behind and to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first, including Indigenous Peoples, who should participate in,

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[243] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United States of America and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[244] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[245] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[246] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

[247] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/72/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[248] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/73/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[249] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/74/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[250] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/75/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[251] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/76/53/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[252] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[253] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[254] Resolution 69/2.

[255] Resolution 70/1.

contribute to and benefit without discrimination from the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and encouraging Member States to give due consideration to all the rights of Indigenous Peoples while implementing the 2030 Agenda,

Stressing the importance of promoting and pursuing the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples also through international cooperation to support national and regional efforts and instruments to achieve the ends of the Declaration, including the right to maintain and strengthen the distinct political, legal, economic, social and cultural institutions of Indigenous Peoples and the right to participate fully, if they so choose, in the political, economic, social and cultural life of the State,

Reiterating the call made in its resolution 74/306 of 11 September 2020, acknowledging that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is one of the greatest global challenges, and noting with deep concern its impact on individuals and groups of society, in particular Indigenous Peoples, on loss of life, health, mental health and well-being, and the enjoyment of human rights, and across all spheres of society, including on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, and education, the exacerbation of poverty and hunger, and disruption to economies, trade, societies and environments, and that these effects disproportionately impact poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population, as well as women and girls,

Expressing deep concern about the rise in discrimination, hate speech, stigmatization, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and stressing the need to counter them, in a manner consistent with international human rights law, as part of the responses to COVID-19 and to future health emergencies,

Condemning the cases of threats, harassment, reprisals and murder of Indigenous Peoples, in particular women and girls, often with impunity, as well as land invasions, arbitrary forced evictions and other abusive practices,

Bearing in mind the policy instruments in the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration[256] for Member States to draw on, including to respond to the needs of migrants who face situations of vulnerability, including Indigenous Peoples,

Taking note with appreciation of the agreed conclusions of the sixty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women,[257] in which Governments at all levels and as appropriate, with the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates and bearing in mind national priorities, were urged to promote and protect the rights of Indigenous women and girls living in rural and remote areas by addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and barriers they face, including violence, ensuring access to quality and inclusive education, health care, public services, economic resources, including land and natural resources, and women's access to decent work, and promoting their meaningful participation in the economy and in decision-making processes at all levels and in all areas, while respecting and protecting their traditional and ancestral knowledge, recognizing that Indigenous women and girls living in rural and remote areas, regardless of age, often face violence and higher rates of poverty, limited access to health-care services, information and communications technologies, infrastructure, financial services, education and employment, while also recognizing their cultural, social, economic, political and environmental contributions, including to climate change mitigation and adaptation, noting the importance of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples for Indigenous women and girls,

Recognizing that violence against Indigenous women and girls has a negative impact on their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and constitutes a major impediment to Indigenous women's full, equal, meaningful and effective participation in society, the economy and political decision-making, and in this regard recalling Human Rights Council resolution 32/19 of 1 July 2016, entitled "Accelerating efforts to eliminate violence against women: preventing and responding to violence against women and girls, including Indigenous women and girls",[258] which brings closer attention to this issue, and recognizing also the negative effects of multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination,

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[256] Resolution 73/195, annex.

[257] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 7* (E/2019/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[258] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. V, sect. A.

Noting the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the preparation of draft general recommendation No. 39 on the rights of Indigenous women and girls,

Stressing the importance of the empowerment and capacity-building of Indigenous women and youth, including their full, meaningful, equal and effective participation in decision-making processes in matters that affect them directly, including policies, programmes and resources, where relevant, that target the well-being of Indigenous women, children and youth, in particular in the areas of quality health services, inclusive quality education, productive employment and decent work, the transmission of traditional, scientific and technical knowledge, languages, spiritual and religious traditions and practices, and the importance of taking measures to promote awareness and understanding of their rights,

Recognizing the importance of the International Year of Indigenous Languages and the International Decade of Indigenous Languages to draw attention to the critical loss of Indigenous languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize and promote Indigenous languages, including sign languages, and to take further urgent steps to that end at the national and international levels,

Stressing the importance of the preservation, revitalization and promotion of Indigenous languages for the empowerment of Indigenous language users, speakers and signers, and the preservation of Indigenous Peoples' cultures, traditions and knowledge, and recognizing the potential of the positive contribution of digital technologies in this regard,

Recognizing the important contribution of Indigenous Peoples in addressing a range of issues on the international agenda,

Recognizing also the importance to Indigenous Peoples of revitalizing, using, developing and transmitting to future generations their histories, languages, oral traditions, cultures, knowledge, philosophies, writing systems and literature,

Deeply concerned that, in many cases, suicide rates in Indigenous Peoples' communities, in particular among Indigenous youth and children, are significantly higher than in the general population,

Bearing in mind the importance of promoting respect for the rights of Indigenous children, in particular eliminating the worst forms of child labour, in accordance with international law, including relevant human rights law and international labour law obligations,

Recognizing the importance of access to justice in the promotion and protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and individuals and the need to examine and take steps to remove obstacles to justice for Indigenous Peoples, especially for Indigenous women, children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities,

Reiterating the responsibility of transnational corporations and other business enterprises to respect all human rights, while recognizing the specific challenges that may be faced by Indigenous Peoples, and all applicable laws and international principles and to operate transparently and in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, and emphasizing the need to refrain from negatively affecting the well-being of Indigenous Peoples and to take further action towards corporate responsibility and accountability, including the prevention, mitigation and remediation of human rights abuses, in line with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[259]

Taking note of the work carried out by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including on the protection of Indigenous human rights defenders, welcoming his report entitled "Protected areas and indigenous peoples' rights: the obligations of States and international organizations",[260] and calling upon all States to consider the recommendations contained in the report,

Taking note with appreciation of the decision of the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 51/18, that the theme of the annual half-day panel discussion on the rights of Indigenous Peoples to be held during the fifty-fourth session of the Council will be the impact of certain development projects on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, in

[259] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[260] A/77/238.

particular the impact on Indigenous women, and looking forward to the summary report thereon to be prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

Noting the discussions to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the work of the Human Rights Council, including the report of the intersessional round table on ways to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of the Council on issues affecting them, held on 16 July 2021, noting also the summary report prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the half-day panel discussion, held on 28 September 2021, on the situation of human rights of Indigenous Peoples facing the COVID-19 pandemic, with a special focus on the right to participation, noting further the four-day expert workshop, held from 21 to 24 November 2022, to discuss recommendations on possible ways to ensure the enhanced participation of Indigenous Peoples in the work of the Council, and looking forward to the summary report thereon prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner,

Recognizing the importance of free, prior and informed consent, as outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Recognizing and reaffirming that Indigenous individuals are entitled without discrimination to all human rights recognized in international law, and that Indigenous Peoples possess collective rights which are indispensable for their existence, well-being and integral development as peoples,[261]

Recognizing the value and the diversity of the cultures and the form of social organization of Indigenous Peoples and their holistic traditional knowledge of their lands, natural resources and environment, and stressing that Indigenous Peoples, including those who are in voluntary isolation or initial contact, have the right to self-determination, and can choose to live in accordance with their traditions,

Noting that the General Assembly, in the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, affirmed and recognized the importance of Indigenous Peoples' religious and cultural sites and of providing access to and repatriation of their ceremonial objects and human remains, as contemplated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Commending Member States, cultural and educational institutions, museums, Indigenous Peoples and civil society for their efforts to combat the illicit trade in Indigenous Peoples' cultural property, and welcoming all initiatives, whether by States, institutions or private persons, for the voluntary return of Indigenous Peoples' cultural property that has been illicitly appropriated,

Recognizing that agricultural practices and forestry that include Indigenous traditional knowledge and innovations can contribute to overcoming the combined challenges of climate change, food insecurity, biodiversity conservation and combating desertification and land degradation,

Recognizing also the importance of facilitating Indigenous Peoples' livelihoods, which may be achieved by, inter alia, the recognition of their traditions, land tenure systems, adequate public policies and economic empowerment,

Recognizing further that the economic empowerment, inclusion and development of all Indigenous Peoples, especially Indigenous women, including through the establishment of Indigenous-owned businesses, can enable them to improve their social, cultural, civil and political engagement, achieve greater economic independence and build more sustainable and resilient communities, and noting the contribution of Indigenous Peoples to the broader economy,

Concerned about the extreme disadvantages that Indigenous Peoples have typically faced across a range of social and economic indicators and about the impediments to their full enjoyment of their rights, in particular for women, young women and girls,

Stressing the need to pay particular attention to the rights and special needs of Indigenous women, children, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including in the process of protecting and promoting their equal access to justice,

[261] See resolution 61/295, annex, preamble.

Recalling its resolution 72/128 of 7 December 2017, entitled "Observer status for the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean in the General Assembly", in which it decided to invite the Fund to participate in the sessions and the work of the Assembly in the capacity of observer, and celebrating the 30 years since its founding and its work promoting and supporting Indigenous Peoples,

Recalling also the outcome document of the dialogue meeting on enhanced Indigenous Peoples' participation at the United Nations, organized by Indigenous organizations and institutions and held in Quito from 27 to 30 January 2020, and the Los Pinos Declaration [Chapoltepek] – Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages of the high-level event entitled "Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages", held in Mexico on 27 and 28 February 2020, with the support of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, takes note of the reports of the Special Rapporteur,[262] and encourages all Governments to respond favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur for visits;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the rights of Indigenous Peoples,[263] the report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences entitled "Violence against indigenous women and girls",[264] the report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation entitled "Human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation of indigenous peoples: state of affairs and lessons from ancestral cultures"[265] and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes entitled "The impact of toxic substances on the human rights of indigenous peoples",[266]

3. *Urges* Governments and the United Nations system, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples through their representatives and institutions, to continue to implement appropriate measures at the national level, including legislative measures, to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to promote awareness of it among all sectors of society, including members of legislatures, the judiciary and the civil service, as well as among Indigenous Peoples, and invites international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, national human rights institutions, where they exist, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and other relevant actors to contribute to those efforts;

4. *Underscores* the importance of implementing the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, and reiterates the commitment of Member States to cooperating with Indigenous Peoples, through their own representative institutions, to develop and implement national action plans, strategies or other measures, where relevant, to achieve the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and acknowledges the positive development that several States have developed, or are in the process of developing, national action plans and domestic legislation for their implementation with the coordination of Indigenous Peoples;

5. *Encourages* the leadership of the Secretary-General and of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, as the responsible senior official of the United Nations system, in overseeing the implementation of and following up on the system-wide action plan to ensure a coherent approach to achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, raising awareness of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and increasing the coherence of the activities of the system in this regard, and encourages the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, resident coordinators and United Nations country teams to implement this plan in full alignment with national development needs and priorities;

6. *Encourages* Member States, resident coordinators and United Nations country teams, within their mandates and in coordination with the Governments concerned, to involve Indigenous Peoples regarding issues

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[262] A/HRC/51/28 and A/HRC/51/28/Add.1.

[263] A/HRC/51/18.

[264] A/HRC/50/26.

[265] A/HRC/51/24.

[266] A/77/183.

affecting them in the preparation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks and country programme action plans;

7. *Reminds* Member States to work towards achieving the ends of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

8. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), of the International Labour Organization[267] to consider doing so;

9. *Reiterates* the need for Member States to ensure protection for Indigenous Peoples affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and protection from future health emergencies, and prevent all forms of discrimination, especially in the context of timely, universal, inclusive, equitable and non-discriminatory access to safe, quality, effective and affordable health care and services and medical supplies and equipment, including diagnostics, therapeutics, medicine and vaccines, and through the dissemination of accurate, clear and evidence- and science-based information, including in Indigenous languages as appropriate, and to leave no one behind, with an endeavour to reach the furthest behind first, founded on the dignity of the human person and reflecting the principles of equality and non-discrimination, and calls upon Member States to put in place an inclusive response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and engage with Indigenous Peoples and other relevant stakeholders to fully empower all in improving and protecting their own health;

10. *Reaffirms* that Indigenous Peoples have the right to their traditional medicines and to maintain their health practices,[268] including, inter alia, the conservation of their vital medicinal plants, as part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences, and also reaffirms that Indigenous individuals have the right to access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services;

11. *Recalls* the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples,[269] encourages Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues and the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples and invites Indigenous organizations and private institutions and individuals to do likewise, and notes the importance of accessibility, accountability, transparency and balanced geographical distribution in the management of those Funds;

12. *Also recalls* the expansion of the mandate of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples so that it can assist representatives of Indigenous Peoples' organizations and communities in participating, whether in person or alternatively by electronic means, in other mechanisms and negotiations such as the Forum on Business and Human Rights and in the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including in its preparatory sessions and in the meetings of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform Facilitative Working Group organized by the secretariat of the Convention, in accordance with their respective rules and regulations;

13. *Notes* the ongoing work and potential of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, emphasizes the important role of Indigenous Peoples in achieving the targets and goals set out in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[270] the Paris Agreement[271] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizes that Indigenous Peoples are among the first to face the direct consequences of climate change owing to their dependence upon and close relationship with the environment and its resources;

14. *Stresses* the urgent need to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability of Indigenous Peoples to climate change and extreme weather events, and to support the leadership, knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of Indigenous Peoples to address and respond to climate change, and encourages Member States to take measures that will ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in decision-

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[267] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1650, No. 28383.

[268] Resolution 61/295, annex, art. 24, para. 1.

[269] A/77/179.

[270] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[271] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

making processes relating to climate change on issues affecting them, including Indigenous women, youth, older persons and persons with disabilities;

15. *Encourages* Member States and the private sector to ensure more sustainable, environmentally friendly and responsible corporate behaviour that addresses the adverse environmental impact of certain business activities, such as illegal logging and mining, uncontrolled agribusiness expansions, unsustainable large-scale infrastructure development projects and extractive industries on the lands and territories traditionally inhabited by Indigenous Peoples and on the well-being of Indigenous Peoples;

16. *Decides* to continue to observe the International Day of Indigenous Peoples every year on 9 August, and requests the Secretary-General to support the observance of the Day from within existing resources;

17. *Encourages* Member States and all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, the private sector and academia, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to observe the International Day of Indigenous Peoples in an appropriate manner, including through educational and public awareness-raising activities;

18. *Encourages* Member States to give due consideration to all the rights of Indigenous Peoples in fulfilling the commitments undertaken in the 2030 Agenda and in the elaboration of national action plans and programmes as well as international and regional programmes, applying the pledge to leave no one behind and to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first;

19. *Encourages* States to continue to consider including in their voluntary national reviews for the high-level political forum on sustainable development and their national and global reports information related to Indigenous Peoples on the progress made and challenges in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, bearing in mind paragraphs 78 and 79 of the 2030 Agenda, and also encourages States to compile disaggregated data to measure progress and to ensure that no one is left behind;

20. *Also encourages* States, according to their relevant national context and characteristics, to collect and disseminate data disaggregated by ethnicity, income, gender, age, race, migratory status, disability, geographic location or other factors, as appropriate, in order to monitor and improve the impact of development policies, strategies and programmes aimed at improving the well-being of Indigenous Peoples and individuals, to combat and eliminate violence and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination against them and to support work towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda;

21. *Calls upon* States to foster an enabling online environment that is safe and conducive to engagement by all Indigenous Peoples, and to take all necessary and appropriate measures to address disinformation and advocacy of hatred constituting incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence towards Indigenous Peoples;

22. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to include information pertinent to Indigenous Peoples in the forthcoming annual reports on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals;

23. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the commitment of States and the entities of the United Nations system to mainstream the promotion and protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples into development policies and programmes at the national, regional and international levels, and encourages them to give due consideration to the rights of Indigenous Peoples in achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda;

24. *Also stresses* the need for Indigenous Peoples of all regions to contribute to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and encourages States to engage with Indigenous Peoples at the local, national and regional levels in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals and to promote Indigenous Peoples' leadership in their achievement;

25. *Invites* the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples to give due consideration, within their mandates, to the rights of Indigenous Peoples as related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

26. *Encourages* the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to continue to provide inputs on Indigenous issues to the high-level political forum on sustainable development for consideration in its thematic reviews;

27. *Underlines* the need to intensify efforts, in cooperation with Indigenous Peoples, to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence, harassment and discrimination, both online and offline, against Indigenous women, children,

youth, older persons and persons with disabilities and to support measures that will ensure their empowerment and full, meaningful and effective participation in decision-making processes at all levels and in all areas and eliminate structural and legal barriers to their full, equal and effective participation in political, economic, social and cultural life;

28. *Urges* States to take necessary measures where appropriate to ensure the rights, protection and safety of Indigenous Peoples, including Indigenous leaders and Indigenous human rights defenders, and to promote a safe and enabling environment in which human rights violations, killings, reprisals and abuses against or related to them are prevented and investigated, the perpetrators are held accountable and access to justice and remedy are ensured;

29. *Reaffirms* the importance of effective accountability with regard to violence against Indigenous women and girls, including all forms of sexual violence, domestic violence, abuse, exploitation and sexual harassment, as well as with regard to taking adequate measures to prevent and eliminate such violence;

30. *Encourages* States to consider including in their reports related to Indigenous Peoples and women information on the progress made and challenges in the implementation of Commission on the Status of Women resolutions 49/7 of 11 March 2005, entitled "Indigenous women: beyond the ten-year review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action",[272] and 56/4 of 9 March 2012, entitled "Indigenous women: key actors in poverty and hunger eradication";[273]

31. *Recalls* the proclamation of the period 2022–2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, to draw attention to the critical loss of Indigenous languages and the urgent need to preserve, revitalize and promote Indigenous languages and to take urgent steps at the national, regional and international levels, and renew its support to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to serve as the lead agency for the International Decade through the global action plan, in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, and other relevant agencies, within existing resources;

32. *Encourages* the adoption by Member States of national action plans with an intergenerational approach to preserve, revitalize and promote Indigenous languages, including sign languages, and engage with public and private actors to enhance the use of digital technologies involving and empowering Indigenous Peoples, while respecting their cultures, traditions and autonomy;

33. *Recognizes* the importance of Indigenous languages as a driver for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and calls upon Member States to integrate the preservation, promotion and revitalization of Indigenous languages in the wider efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda;

34. *Also recognizes* the importance of creating international, regional and national initiatives to promote the use of Indigenous languages, such as the Ibero-American Institute of Indigenous Languages, and in this regard encourages Member States to explore the creation of such initiatives;

35. *Recalls* the decision to convene a high-level event during 2022, organized by the President of the General Assembly, for the launch of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, and further requests the President of the General Assembly to support initiatives relevant to the successful celebration of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, within existing resources;

36. *Invites* Member States to consider establishing national mechanisms with adequate funding for the successful implementation of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, in partnership with Indigenous Peoples, and to support Indigenous Peoples, as custodians of their own languages, to initiate and develop appropriate measures for the implementation of the International Decade, with the aim to preserve, revitalize and promote Indigenous languages;

37. *Recognizes* that the United Nations pursues multilingualism as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving diversity of languages and cultures globally, reaffirms that linguistic diversity is an important element of cultural diversity, and encourages Member States to adopt public policies with an intercultural approach in their design and implementation, aiming to preserve, revitalize and promote Indigenous languages, the possibility of including

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[272] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and E/2005/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[273] Ibid., *2012, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2012/27 and E/2012/27/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

educational programmes that reinforce the use of Indigenous languages among children and youth by using an intergenerational approach with the participation of Indigenous elders, as well as the promotion and use of Indigenous languages at the international level;

38. *Encourages* Governments to redouble efforts to eliminate child labour, both in legislation and in practice, in the context of respect for the human rights of Indigenous children, including through international cooperation, as appropriate;

39. *Also encourages* Governments to promote actions to end hunger and malnutrition in all its forms and achieve food security and improved nutrition for Indigenous children, especially for those living in rural and remote areas, by providing them with adequate access to food, water and sanitation, education, and universal and equitable access to quality health services, and to implement actions for poverty eradication and build sustainable food systems;

40. *Urges* Governments to ensure that Indigenous Peoples shall not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories and that no relocation shall take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the Indigenous Peoples concerned, after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return, and to take effective measures to ensure that all Indigenous Peoples, regardless of their tenure status, have access to essential services, including access to safe and affordable water, sanitation, energy and health services;

41. *Encourages* transnational corporations and other business enterprises to respect human rights, including the rights of Indigenous children, and to eliminate forced labour and child labour from their operations;

42. *Expresses concern* over the misappropriation and misuse of Indigenous Peoples' cultural heritage, reaffirms that Indigenous Peoples have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, and that they also have the right to maintain, control, protect and develop their intellectual property over such cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, and recalls that States, in conjunction with Indigenous Peoples, shall take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of these rights, in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and as acknowledged in national law;

43. *Underscores* the need to ensure equal protection of the law and equality before the courts for Indigenous women and girls at all levels and, to that end, the importance of providing systematic gender-sensitivity training, as appropriate, for police and security forces, prosecutors, judges and lawyers, integrating gender considerations into security sector reform initiatives, developing protocols and guidelines and enhancing or putting in place appropriate accountability measures for adjudicators;

44. *Encourages* States and entities of the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation, including to address the disadvantages faced by Indigenous Peoples, and to increase technical cooperation and financial assistance in this regard;

45. *Encourages* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in accordance with their mandates, to carry out research and evidence-gathering on the prevalence and root causes of suicide among Indigenous youth and children and good practices on its prevention and to consider developing, as appropriate, strategies or policies, consistent with national priorities, in cooperation with Member States, to tackle it, including through consultation with Indigenous Peoples, in particular Indigenous youth organizations;

46. *Recalls* the report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them,[274] and recalls with appreciation the work led by the Presidents of the General Assembly at its seventieth to seventy-fifth sessions in conducting consultations with Member States, Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions from all regions of the world and existing mechanisms of the United Nations on possible measures to enable the participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions in meetings of relevant United Nations bodies on issues affecting them, which led to the adoption of Assembly resolution 71/321, taking into account the achievements in that regard of other bodies and organizations throughout the United Nations system, to be preceded by consultations with

[274] A/75/255.

Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions from all regions of the world as an input to the intergovernmental process;

47. *Also recalls* its decision 76/560 of 26 April 2022, by which it postponed to its seventy-seventh session the organization of an informal interactive hearing with Indigenous Peoples, as requested in resolution 71/321;

48. *Decides* to continue the consideration of possible further measures necessary to enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions in relevant United Nations meetings on issues affecting them at the seventy-eighth session, as originally requested in resolution 71/321;

49. *Invites* Member States to support the Secretary-General in his efforts or activities to hold regional consultations, including through the regional commissions, as appropriate, before the twenty-second session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, including by hosting such consultations, in accordance with resolution 71/321, and notes with appreciation the regional consultations hosted by Member States, held during the twenty-first session of the Permanent Forum;

50. *Encourages* the United Nations system to strengthen cooperation with the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean, considering its fundamental role in the Latin American and Caribbean region in processes of dialogue and consultation between States and Indigenous Peoples;

51. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-eighth session, under the item entitled "Rights of Indigenous Peoples", and to maintain in the provisional agenda the sub-item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples".

RESOLUTION 77/204

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 120 to 50, with 10 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/461, para. 31)[275]

* *In favour:* Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Afghanistan, Ecuador, Myanmar, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Switzerland, Türkiye

[275] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cambodia, Central African Republic, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Mali, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Senegal, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

77/204. Combating glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[276] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[277] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[278] and other relevant human rights instruments,

Recalling the provisions of Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2004/16 of 16 April 2004[279] and 2005/5 of 14 April 2005[280] and relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, in particular resolutions 7/34 of 28 March 2008,[281] 18/15 of 29 September 2011[282] and 21/33 of 28 September 2012,[283] as well as General Assembly resolutions 60/143 of 16 December 2005, 61/147 of 19 December 2006, 62/142 of 18 December 2007, 63/162 of 18 December 2008, 64/147 of 18 December 2009, 65/199 of 21 December 2010, 66/143 of 19 December 2011, 67/154 of 20 December 2012, 68/150 of 18 December 2013, 69/160 of 18 December 2014, 70/139 of 17 December 2015, 71/179 of 19 December 2016, 72/156 of 19 December 2017, 73/157 of 17 December 2018, 74/136 of 18 December 2019, 75/169 of 16 December 2020 and 76/149 of 16 December 2021 on this issue, and its resolutions 61/149 of 19 December 2006, 62/220 of 22 December 2007, 63/242 of 24 December 2008, 64/148 of 18 December 2009, 65/240 of 24 December 2010, 66/144 of 19 December 2011, 67/155 of 20 December 2012, 68/151 of 18 December 2013, 69/162 of 18 December 2014, 70/140 of 17 December 2015, 71/181 of 19 December 2016, 72/157 of 19 December 2017, 73/262 of 22 December 2018, 74/137 of 18 December 2019, 75/237 of 31 December 2020 and 76/226 of 24 December 2021, entitled "A global call for concrete action for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action",

Acknowledging other important initiatives of the General Assembly aimed at raising awareness about the suffering of victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and forms of discrimination, including in the historical perspective, in particular regarding commemoration of the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade,

Recalling the Charter of the Nuremberg Tribunal, and the Judgment of the Tribunal which recognized as criminal, inter alia, the SS organization and its integral parts, including the Waffen SS, through its officially accepted members implicated in or with knowledge of the commission of war crimes and crimes against humanity connected with the Second World War, as well as other relevant provisions of the Charter and the Judgment,

Mindful of the horrors of the Second World War, and stressing in this regard that the victory over Nazism in the Second World War contributed to the establishment of the conditions for the creation of the United Nations, designed to prevent future wars and save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Noting that neo-Nazism is more than just the glorification of a past movement, it is a contemporary phenomenon with strong vested interests in racial inequality and an investment in gaining broad support for its false claims of racial superiority,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[284] in particular paragraph 2 of the Declaration and paragraphs 84 to 86 of the Programme of Action, as well as the relevant

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[276] Resolution 217 A (III).

[277] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[278] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[279] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[280] Ibid., *2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23, E/2005/23/Corr.1 and E/2005/23/Corr.2), chap. II, sect. A.

[281] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II.

[282] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and A/66/53/Add.1/ Corr.1), chap. II.

[283] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[284] See A/CONF.189/12 and A/CONF.189/12/Corr.1, chap. I.

provisions of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference of 24 April 2009,[285] in particular paragraphs 11, 13 and 54,

Alarmed at the spread in many parts of the world of various extremist political parties, movements, ideologies and groups of a racist or xenophobic character, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and at the fact that this trend has resulted in the implementation of discriminatory measures and policies at the local or national level,

Noting with concern that, even where neo-Nazis or extremists do not formally participate in government, the presence therein of extreme right-wing ideologues can have the effect of injecting into governance and political discourse the same ideologies that make neo-Nazism and extremism so dangerous,

Alarmed at music lyrics and video games that advocate racial hatred and incite discrimination, hostility or violence,

Concerned by the use of Internet platforms by groups that advocate hatred to plan, fundraise and circulate information about public events aimed at promoting racism, xenophobia and related intolerance, such as rallies, demonstrations and acts of violence,

Mindful of the role that the Internet can play in promoting equality, inclusion and non-discrimination as part of strengthening democracy and respect for human rights,

Seriously concerned that neo-Nazi groups, as well as other groups and individuals espousing ideologies of hatred, have increasingly targeted susceptible individuals, mainly children and youth, by means of specifically tailored websites with the aim of their indoctrination and recruitment,

Deeply concerned by all recent manifestations of violence and terrorism incited by violent nationalism, racism, antisemitism, discrimination based on religion, belief or origin, including Islamophobia, Christianophobia and Afrophobia, xenophobia and related intolerance, including during sports events,

Recognizing with deep concern the continued alarming increase in instances of discrimination, intolerance and extremist violence motivated by antisemitism, religion or belief, including Islamophobia and Christianophobia, and prejudices against persons of other ethnic origins, religions and beliefs,

Underlining the existing lack of uniformity of norms regarding protected speech and expression and prohibited racial discrimination and advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence,

Noting with concern, in this regard, that the variation in national standards prohibiting hate speech may provide safe havens for neo-Nazi, extremist, violent nationalist, xenophobic or racist speech owing to the fact that many neo-Nazi and relevant extremist groups of a racist or xenophobic character operate transnationally by relying on Internet service providers or social media platforms,

Stressing that the purpose of addressing hate speech is not to limit or prohibit freedom of speech, but to prevent incitement to discrimination and violence, which shall be prohibited by law,

Expressing its concern about the use of digital technologies by extremist and hate groups, including neo-Nazi groups, to disseminate their ideology, while recognizing that digital technologies are of great importance for the enjoyment of human rights and for combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

1. *Reaffirms* the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, in which States condemned the persistence and resurgence of neo-Nazism, neo-Fascism and violent nationalist ideologies based on racial and national prejudice and stated that those phenomena could never be justified in any instance or in any circumstances;

2. *Recalls* the provisions of the Durban Declaration and of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, in which States recognized the positive contribution that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression, in particular by the media and new technologies, including the Internet, and full respect for the freedom

[285] See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

to seek, receive and impart information can make to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, prepared in accordance with the request contained in its resolution 76/149;[286]

4. *Notes with alarm* that the Russian Federation has sought to justify its territorial aggression against Ukraine on the purported basis of eliminating neo-Nazism, and underlines that the pretextual use of neo-Nazism to justify territorial aggression seriously undermines genuine attempts to combat neo-Nazism;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for their efforts to fight racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including the maintenance by the Office of the High Commissioner of the database on practical means to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

6. *Expresses deep concern* about the glorification, in any form, of the Nazi movement, neo-Nazism and former members of the Waffen SS organization, including by erecting monuments and memorials, holding public demonstrations in the name of the glorification of the Nazi past, the Nazi movement and neo-Nazism, declaring or attempting to declare such members and those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition, collaborated with the Nazi movement and committed war crimes and crimes against humanity participants in national liberation movements, as well as by the renaming of streets glorifying them;

7. *Calls for* the universal ratification and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and urges those States parties that have not yet done so to consider making the declaration under its article 14, thus providing the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination with the competence to receive and consider communications from individuals or groups of individuals within their jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation by a State party of any of the rights set forth in the Convention;

8. *Urges* States to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination by all appropriate means, including legislation as required by circumstances, while ensuring that the definition of racial discrimination set out therein complies with article 1 of the Convention;

9. *Encourages* those States that have made reservations to article 4 of the Convention to give serious consideration to withdrawing such reservations as a matter of priority, as stressed by the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

10. *Acknowledges* that discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion or belief in all its forms and manifestations, including neo-Nazism, Islamophobia, Christianophobia and antisemitism, is a threat to social cohesion, not just to those racial and ethnic groups that are their direct target;

11. *Recalls* that any legislative or constitutional measures adopted with a view to countering extremist political parties, movements, ideologies and groups of a racist or xenophobic character, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups and similar extremist ideological movements, should be in conformity with the relevant international human rights obligations, in particular articles 4 and 5 of the Convention and articles 19 to 22 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

12. *Encourages* States to develop and implement national action plans for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, with a view to, inter alia, monitoring closely the phenomenon of Nazism, neo-Nazism and Holocaust denial, such as commemorative celebration of the Nazi regime, its allies and related organizations;

13. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures to ensure that their legislation is in accordance with their obligations under the Convention, including those under article 4;

14. *Stresses* that the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association are important in supporting the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance worldwide;

[286] A/77/512.

15. *Emphasizes once more* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur that "any commemorative celebration of the Nazi regime, its allies and related organizations, whether official or unofficial, should be prohibited" by States,[287] also emphasizes that such manifestations do injustice to the memory of the countless victims of the Second World War and negatively influence children and young people, and stresses in this regard that it is important that States take measures, in accordance with international human rights law, to counteract any celebration of the Nazi SS organization and all its integral parts, including the Waffen SS, and that failure by States to effectively address such practices is incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter;

16. *Expresses deep concern* about increased frequency of attempts and activities intended to desecrate or demolish monuments erected in remembrance of those who fought against Nazism during the Second World War, as well as to unlawfully exhume or remove the remains of such persons, and in this regard urges States to fully comply with their relevant obligations, inter alia, under article 34 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions of 1949;[288]

17. *Firmly condemns* incidents that glorify and promote Nazism, such as acts involving pro-Nazi graffiti and paintings, including on monuments dedicated to victims of the Second World War;

18. *Welcomes* efforts by Member States to preserve historical truth, including through constructing and preserving monuments and memorials dedicated to those who fought in the ranks of the anti-Hitler coalition;

19. *Expresses alarm* over the use by extremist groups, including neo-Nazi groups, and individuals espousing ideologies of hatred, of information technologies, the Internet and social media to recruit new members, especially targeting children and young people, and to disseminate and to amplify their hate-filled messages, while recognizing that the Internet can also be used to counteract these groups and their activities;

20. *Calls upon* States to take appropriate measures to address the new and emerging threats posed by the rise in terrorist attacks incited by racism, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance, or in the name of religion or belief;

21. *Notes with concern* the significant number of racist incidents worldwide, including the rise of skinhead groups, which have been responsible for many of these incidents, as well as the resurgence of racist and xenophobic violence targeting, inter alia, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, or on any other grounds, including arson attacks on houses and vandalization of and violence in schools and places of worship and cemeteries;

22. *Reaffirms* that such acts may, in certain circumstances, be qualified as falling within the scope of the Convention, that they may not be justifiable as exercises of freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of association and freedom of expression and that they will often fall within the scope of article 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and may be subject to certain restrictions, as set out in articles 19, 21 and 22 of the Covenant;

23. *Encourages* States to take appropriate concrete measures, including legislative and educational ones, in accordance with their international human rights obligations, in order to prevent revisionism in respect of the Second World War and the denial of the crimes against humanity and war crimes committed during the Second World War;

24. *Calls upon* States to take active measures to ensure that education systems develop the necessary content to provide accurate accounts of history, as well as promote tolerance and other international human rights principles;

25. *Recalls* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur that education that seeks to undercut the racist effects of nationalist populism should include accurate and representative accounts of national history that give voice to racial and ethnic diversity and that expose the untruths of those who attempt to write ethnic groups out of national histories and identities in order to sustain ethnonationalist myths of racially or ethnically "pure" nations;[289]

26. *Condemns without reservation* any denial of or attempt to deny the Holocaust, as well as any manifestation of religious intolerance, incitement, harassment or violence against persons or communities, on the basis of ethnic origin or religious belief;

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[287] A/72/291, para. 79.

[288] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[289] A/73/305 and A/73/305/Corr.1, para. 56.

27. *Affirms its deep commitment* to the duty of remembrance, and welcomes the call of the Special Rapporteur for the active preservation of those Holocaust sites that served as Nazi death camps, concentration and forced labour camps and prisons, as well as his encouragement to States to take measures, including legislative, law enforcement and educational measures, to put an end to all forms of Holocaust denial;[290]

28. *Recalls* the conclusions of the Special Rapporteur that revisionism and attempts to falsify history may, in certain circumstances, fall under the prohibition of hate speech under article 4 (a) of the Convention, which States are required to declare as offences punishable by law,[291] and that neo-Nazi recruitment attempting to mainstream extreme ideologies or racial, ethnic or religious hatred and intolerance may fall under article 4 (b) of the Convention;

29. *Calls upon* States to continue to take all appropriate measures aimed at preventing and countering hate speech, including on the Internet, and incitement to violence against persons in vulnerable situations, including the organization of meetings and violent protests, fundraising and engagement in other activities;

30. *Expresses serious concern* regarding attempts to prohibit, at the legislative level, symbols associated in States with the victory over Nazism;

31. *Expresses deep concern* about attempts at commercial advertising aimed at exploiting the sufferings of the victims of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the Second World War by the Nazi regime;

32. *Stresses* the need to respect the memory and that the practices described above do injustice to the memory of the countless victims of crimes against humanity committed in the Second World War, in particular those committed by the SS organization and by those who fought against the anti-Hitler coalition and collaborated with the Nazi movement, and may negatively influence children and young people, and that failure by States to effectively address such practices is incompatible with the obligations of States Members of the United Nations under its Charter, including those related to the purposes and principles of the Organization;

33. *Also stresses* that all such practices may fuel contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, antisemitism, discrimination based on religion or belief, including Islamophobia and Christianophobia, xenophobia and related intolerance and contribute to the spread and multiplication of various extremist political parties, movements and groups of a racist or xenophobic character, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and in this regard calls for increased vigilance;

34. *Expresses concern* that the human rights and democratic challenges posed by extremist political parties, movements and groups are universal and no country is immune to them;

35. *Emphasizes* the need to take appropriate measures necessary to counter the practices described above, and calls upon States and all other stakeholders to take more effective measures, while fully respecting international human rights law, to prevent, counter and combat those phenomena and extremist movements of a racist or xenophobic character, which pose a real threat to democratic values, and to increase their vigilance and be proactive in strengthening their efforts to recognize and effectively address those challenges;

36. *Underlines* the importance of reliable disaggregated data and statistics on racist and xenophobic crimes for identifying the types of offences committed, the profiles of victims and of perpetrators and whether the latter are affiliated with extremist movements or groups, thus enhancing better understanding of the phenomenon, identifying effective measures to address such racist and xenophobic crimes and assessing the impact of these measures, and recalls in this regard the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[292] on data, monitoring and accountability, including collecting data disaggregated by characteristics relevant in national contexts;

37. *Encourages* States to adopt further measures to support training for the police and other law enforcement bodies on the ideologies of extremist political parties, movements and groups the advocacy of which constitutes incitement to racist and xenophobic violence, to strengthen their capacity to address racist and xenophobic crimes and prevent racial profiling practices, to fulfil their responsibility for bringing to justice the perpetrators of such crimes and to combat impunity;

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[290] A/72/291, para. 91.

[291] A/HRC/38/53, para. 15.

[292] Resolution 70/1.

38. *Expresses deep concern* about the increased number of seats occupied by representatives of extremist parties of a racist or xenophobic character in a number of national and local parliaments, and emphasizes in this regard the need for all democratic political parties to base their programmes and activities on respect for human rights and freedoms, democracy, the rule of law and good governance and to condemn all messages disseminating ideas that are based on racial superiority or hatred and that have the objective of fuelling contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

39. *Recalls* the concern of the Special Rapporteur regarding the resurgence of neo-Nazism in contemporary times and growing support for and acceptance of neo-Nazism and related ideology in an increasing number of countries;[293]

40. *Notes with appreciation*, in this regard, the call of the Special Rapporteur upon political leaders and parties to strongly condemn incitement to racial discrimination or xenophobia, to promote tolerance and respect and to refrain from forming coalitions with extremist parties of a racist or xenophobic character;[294]

41. *Welcomes* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur to continue to take steps through national legislation, in accordance with international human rights law, aimed at preventing hate speech and incitement to violence, to withdraw support – financial and otherwise – from political parties and other organizations that engage in neo-Nazi or other hate speech and to take steps to dismantle responsible organizations where such hate speech aims, or can reasonably be expected, to incite violence;[295]

42. *Encourages* States to improve diversity within law enforcement agencies, and urges them to take all appropriate measures to facilitate the filing of complaints about and to impose appropriate sanctions against those within the public service found to have committed racially motivated violence or to have used hate speech;

43. *Expresses deep concern* about the increase in reported cases of racism, antisemitism, discrimination based on religion, belief or origin, including Islamophobic, Arabophobic, Afrophobic and xenophobic manifestations during sports events, including those committed by extremist groups of a racist or xenophobic character, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and calls upon States, international organizations, sports federations and other relevant stakeholders to strengthen measures to address such incidents, while also welcoming the steps that many States and sports federations, clubs and fan groups have taken to eliminate racism at sporting events, including through sport practised without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which require human understanding, tolerance, inclusion, fair play and solidarity;

44. *Recalls* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur to introduce into national criminal law a provision according to which committing an offence with racist or xenophobic motivations or aims constitutes an aggravating circumstance, allowing for enhanced penalties,[296] and encourages those States whose legislation does not contain such provisions to consider that recommendation;

45. *Notes* measures taken by States to prevent discrimination against, in particular but not limited to, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, people of African descent, Roma, migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers, and to ensure their integration into society, urges States to ensure the full and effective implementation of legal, policy and institutional measures protecting these individuals and groups, including women and girls, and recommends that States effectively guarantee to everyone, without discrimination of any kind, their human rights, including those related to safety and security, access to justice, adequate reparation and appropriate information about their rights, and pursue prosecution and adequate punishment, as appropriate, of those responsible for racist and xenophobic crimes against them, including the possibility of seeking reparation or satisfaction for damages suffered as a result of such crimes;

46. *Calls upon* States to increase awareness about available national and other remedies for human rights violations based on racial discrimination and racism;

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[293] A/HRC/38/53, para. 16.

[294] A/72/291, para. 83.

[295] A/HRC/38/53, para. 35 (c).

[296] A/69/334, para. 81.

47. *Underlines* that the roots of extremism are multifaceted and must be addressed through adequate measures such as education, awareness-raising and the promotion of dialogue, and in this regard recommends the increase of measures to raise awareness among young people of the dangers of the ideologies and activities of extremist political parties, movements and groups;

48. *Reaffirms*, in this regard, the particular importance of all forms of education, including human rights education, as a complement to legislative measures, and calls upon States to continue to invest in education, in both conventional and non-conventional curricula, inter alia, in order to transform attitudes and counteract ideas of racial hierarchies and superiority, and counter their negative influence, and to promote the values of non-discrimination, equality and respect for all, as outlined by the Special Rapporteur;

49. *Recognizes* the paramount role of education in promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms and combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, especially in promoting the principles of tolerance, non-discrimination, inclusion and respect for ethnic, religious and cultural diversity and preventing the spread of extremist racist and xenophobic movements and ideas;

50. *Strongly condemns* the use in educational settings of educational material and rhetoric that promulgate racism, discrimination, hatred and violence on the basis of ethnic origin, nationality, religion or belief;

51. *Emphasizes* the recommendation of the Special Rapporteur presented at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, in which he emphasized the importance of history classes in teaching the dramatic events and human suffering which arose out of the adoption of ideologies such as Nazism and Fascism;[297]

52. *Stresses* the importance of other positive measures and initiatives aimed at bringing communities together and providing them with space for genuine dialogue, such as round tables, working groups and seminars, including training seminars for State agents and media professionals, as well as awareness-raising activities, especially those initiated by civil society representatives, which require continued State support;

53. *Underlines* the positive role that relevant United Nations entities and programmes, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, can play in the aforementioned areas;

54. *Reaffirms* article 4 of the Convention, according to which States parties condemn all propaganda and all organizations which are based on ideas or theories of superiority of one race or group of persons of one colour or ethnic origin, or which attempt to justify or promote racial hatred and discrimination in any form, and undertake to adopt immediate and positive measures designed to eradicate all incitement to, or acts of, such discrimination and, to this end, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the rights expressly set forth in article 5 of the Convention, inter alia:

(a) Shall declare an offence punishable by law all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, and incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin, and also the provision of any assistance to racist activities, including the financing thereof;

(b) Shall declare illegal and prohibit organizations, and also organized and all other propaganda activities, which promote and incite racial discrimination, and shall recognize participation in such organizations or activities as an offence punishable by law;

(c) Shall not permit public authorities or public institutions, national or local, to promote or incite racial discrimination;

55. *Also reaffirms* that, as underlined in paragraph 13 of the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, any advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence should be prohibited by law, that all dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred, or incitement to racial discrimination, as well as all acts of violence or incitement to such acts, shall be declared offences punishable by law, in accordance with the international obligations of States, and that these prohibitions are consistent with freedom of opinion and expression;

[297] A/64/295, para. 104.

56. *Recalls* the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech, which sets out strategic guidance for the United Nations system to address hate speech at the national and global levels;

57. *Recognizes* the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, including through the Internet, can play in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

58. *Calls upon* States to strengthen freedom of expression, which can play a crucial role in promoting democracy and combating racist and xenophobic ideologies based on racial superiority;

59. *Also calls upon* States, which have the primary responsibility to counter discrimination and hate speech, and all relevant actors, including political and religious leaders, to promote inclusion and unity in response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and to prevent, speak out and take strong action against racism, xenophobia, hate speech, violence, discrimination and stigmatization;

60. *Expresses concern* about the increased use of digital technologies to promote and disseminate racism, racial hatred, xenophobia, racial discrimination and related intolerance, and in this regard calls upon States parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to counter the dissemination of the above-mentioned ideas while respecting their obligations under articles 19 and 20 of the Covenant, which guarantee the right to freedom of expression and outline the grounds on which the exercise of this right can be legitimately restricted;

61. *Recognizes* the need to promote the use of new information and communications technologies, including the Internet, to contribute to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

62. *Also recognizes* the positive role that the media can play in combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, promoting a culture of tolerance and inclusion and representing the diversity of a multicultural society;

63. *Encourages* States, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to use all opportunities, including those provided by the Internet and social media, to counter, in accordance with international human rights law, the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or hatred and to promote the values of equality, non-discrimination, diversity and democracy;

64. *Encourages* national human rights institutions, where they exist, to develop appropriate programmes to promote tolerance, inclusion and respect for all and to collect relevant information in this regard;

65. *Notes* the importance of strengthening cooperation at the regional and international levels with the aim of countering all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular regarding issues raised in the present resolution;

66. *Stresses* the importance of cooperating closely with civil society and international and regional human rights mechanisms in order to counter effectively all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and other similar extremist ideological movements that incite racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

67. *Recalls* the request of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 2005/5, that the Special Rapporteur continue to reflect on this issue, make relevant recommendations in future reports and seek and take into account in this regard the views of Governments and non-governmental organizations;

68. *Invites* States to consider including in their reports for the universal periodic review and their reports to relevant treaty bodies information on the steps taken to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including with the aim of implementing the provisions of the present resolution;

69. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to prepare, for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and to the Human Rights Council at its fifty-third session, reports on the implementation of the present resolution, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to pay specific attention to paragraphs 6, 13, 15, 16, 17, 21, 29, 30, 31, 49 and 51 above, based on the views collected in accordance with the request of the Commission, as recalled in paragraph 67 above;

70. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments and non-governmental organizations that have submitted information to the Special Rapporteur in the course of the preparation of her report to the General Assembly;

71. *Encourages* States and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur, including by providing information on developments with regard to the issues raised in the present resolution in order to contribute to the preparation of future reports to the General Assembly;

72. *Stresses* that such information is important for the sharing of experiences and best practices in the fight against extremist political parties, movements and groups, including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups, and other extremist ideological movements that incite racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

73. *Encourages* Governments to invest more resources in building and sharing knowledge on successful positive measures to prevent and counter racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in addition to sanctioning any violations, including by providing remedies to victims of violations, as appropriate;

74. *Encourages* Governments, non-governmental organizations and relevant actors to disseminate, as widely as possible, information regarding the contents of and the principles outlined in the present resolution, including through the media, but not limited to it;

75. *Decides* to remain seized of the issue.

RESOLUTION 77/205

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 129 to 17, with 36 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/461, para. 31)[298]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Austria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland

77/205. A global call for concrete action for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the comprehensive follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference,[299] in particular its resolutions 66/144 of 19 December 2011, 67/155 of 20 December 2012, 73/262 of 22 December 2018 and 76/226 of 24 December 2021, as well as its resolutions 75/314 of 2 August 2021 and 76/1 of 22 September 2021, and in this regard underlining the imperative need for their full and effective implementation,

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[298] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and the Russian Federation.

[299] See A/CONF.189/12 and A/CONF.189/12/Corr.1, chap. I.

Recalling also the suffering of the victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and the need to honour their memory,

Calling upon States to honour the memory of victims of the historical injustices of slavery, the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, colonialism and apartheid,

Stressing that the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance has the same status as the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions in the human rights and social fields, and that the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action remains a solid basis and the only instructive outcome of the World Conference, which prescribes comprehensive measures for combating all the scourges of racism and adequate remedies for victims, and noting with concern the lack of effective implementation thereof,

Expressing deep concern at emerging obstacles to the enjoyment of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief[300] and at instances of intolerance, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons based on religion or belief, inter alia, the increasing number of related acts of violence, and recalling that the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action calls upon States, in opposing all forms of racism, to recognize the need to counter antisemitism, anti-Arabism and Islamophobia worldwide,

Alarmed at the global rise in hate speech, constituting incitement to racial discrimination, hostility and violence, stressing the importance of addressing it, in accordance with international law, and in this regard welcoming the observance of 18 June as the International Day for Countering Hate Speech[301] and noting the issuance of the United Nations Guidance Note on Addressing and Countering COVID-19-related Hate Speech on 11 May 2020,

Underlining the need to promote tolerance, inclusion and respect for diversity and the need to seek common ground among and within civilizations in order to address common challenges to humanity that threaten shared values, universal human rights and the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, through cooperation, partnership and inclusion,

Alarmed at the spread in many parts of the world of various racist extremist movements based on ideologies that seek to promote nationalist, right-wing agendas and racial superiority, and stressing that these practices fuel racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Deploring the ongoing and resurgent scourges of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in many regions of the world, often targeting migrants and refugees, as well as people of African descent, expressing concern that some political leaders and parties have supported such an environment, and in this context expressing its support for migrants and refugees in the context of the severe discrimination that they may face,

Reaffirming the necessity of eliminating racial discrimination against migrants, including migrant workers, in relation to issues such as employment, social services, including education and health, and access to justice, and that their treatment must be in accordance with international human rights instruments and free from racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Deploring the recent incidents of excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers against peaceful demonstrators defending the rights of Africans and of people of African descent, and recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 43/1 of 19 June 2020,[302] 44/20 of 17 July 2020,[303] 47/21 of 13 July 2021,[304] 48/18 of 11 October 2021[305] and 51/32 of 7 October 2022,[306]

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[300] Universal Declaration of Human Rights, art. 18 (see resolution 217 A (III)).

[301] Resolution 75/309.

[302] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/75/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[303] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[304] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/76/53), chap. VII, sect. A.

[305] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/76/53/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[306] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

Recognizing that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance have a deep negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights, and therefore require a united and comprehensive response from the international community,

Expressing concern at the loss of life and livelihoods and the disruption to economies and societies caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and its negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights around the world, disproportionately affecting certain individuals, including those facing racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, which the pandemic has highlighted and exposed, including underlying deep and long-standing structural inequalities and fundamental problems in various areas of social, economic, civil and political life, and its exacerbation of existing inequalities, and recalling that systemic and structural racism and racial discrimination further exacerbate inequality in access to health care and treatment, leading to racial disparities in health outcomes and a higher rate of mortality and morbidity among individuals and groups facing racial discrimination,

Noting with concern the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the existing inequalities within our societies and regretting that, in that context, persons belonging to racial and ethnic minorities and to other groups, including Asians and people of Asian descent, especially women and girls, have been victims of racist violence, threats of violence, discrimination and stigmatization,

Recalling the three Decades for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination previously declared by the General Assembly, and regretting that the Programmes of Action for those Decades were not fully implemented and that their objectives have yet to be attained,

Noting that the seventy-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[307] and the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[308] will be commemorated in 2023, and stressing in this regard the importance of fully integrating the matter of combating racism into these commemorations,

Stressing in this respect the need to also address negative stereotypes, stigmatization and the assigning of identity based on race as essential in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Reiterating that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies, and that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous and must be rejected, together with theories that attempt to determine the existence of separate human races,

Underlining the intensity, magnitude and organized nature of slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, and the associated historical injustices, as well as the untold suffering caused by colonialism and apartheid, and that Africans and people of African descent, Asians and people of Asian descent and Indigenous Peoples continue to be victims, and acknowledging that the ongoing effects must be remedied,

Acknowledging the efforts and initiatives undertaken by States to prohibit racial discrimination and racial segregation and to engender the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights,

Emphasizing that, despite efforts in this regard, millions of human beings continue to be victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including their contemporary forms and manifestations, some of which manifest in violent forms,

Welcoming the efforts made by civil society in support of the follow-up mechanisms in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

Recalling the appointment of the five independent eminent experts by the Secretary-General on 16 June 2003, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/266 of 27 March 2002, with the mandate to follow up on the implementation of the provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and to make appropriate recommendations thereon,

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[307] Resolution 217 A (III).

[308] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Underlining the primacy of the political will, international cooperation and adequate funding at the national, regional and international levels needed to address all forms and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance for the successful implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,

Recalling its resolution 2142 (XXI) of 26 October 1966, in which it proclaimed 21 March as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,

Recalling also its resolution 62/122 of 17 December 2007, in which it designated 25 March as the annual International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade,

Recalling further, in the above context, the erection of the permanent memorial for the victims of slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade, the *Ark of Return*, based on the theme "Acknowledge the tragedy, consider the legacy, lest we forget",

Welcoming the call upon all the former colonial Powers for reparations, consistent with paragraphs 157 and 158 of the Durban Programme of Action, to redress the historical injustices of slavery and the slave trade, including the transatlantic slave trade,

Recognizing and affirming that the global fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and all their abhorrent and contemporary forms and manifestations is a matter of priority for the international community,

I
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

1. *Reaffirms* the paramount importance of universal adherence to and the full and effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[309] adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 2106 A (XX) of 21 December 1965, in addressing the scourges of racism and racial discrimination;

2. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to accede to and/or ratify the Convention, and States parties to consider making the declaration under article 14 of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so, and consistent with paragraph 75 of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, to consider withdrawing their reservations to article 4 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;

4. *Underlines*, in the above context, that the provisions of the Convention do not respond effectively to contemporary manifestations of racial discrimination, in particular in relation to xenophobia and related intolerance, which is recognized as the rationale behind the convening of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in 2001;

5. *Takes note* of the acknowledgement by the Human Rights Council and its subsidiary structures of the existence of both procedural and substantive gaps in the Convention, which must be filled as a matter of urgency, necessity and priority;

6. *Expresses its concern* at the lack of progress in the elaboration of complementary standards to the Convention to fill existing gaps through the development of new normative standards aimed at combating all forms of contemporary and resurgent scourges of racism;

7. *Recalls* Human Rights Council resolution 34/36 of 24 March 2017,[310] in which the Council requested the Chair-Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to ensure the commencement of the negotiations on the draft additional protocol to the Convention criminalizing acts of a racist and xenophobic nature during the tenth session of the Ad Hoc Committee;

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[309] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[310] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

8. *Requests* the Chair-Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards to present a progress report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

II
International Decade for People of African Descent

9. *Recalls* the proclamation of the International Decade for People of African Descent, as contained in its resolution 68/237 of 23 December 2013, and the celebratory launch of the Decade on 10 December 2014;

10. *Also recalls* the programme of activities for the International Decade for People of African Descent, in which it was recommended that a forum on people of African descent be established and that consideration be given to the elaboration of a draft United Nations declaration on the promotion and full respect of the human rights of people of African descent;

11. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent, through its resolution 75/314 of 2 August 2021, which determines its mandate and composition, as a consultative mechanism for people of African descent and other relevant stakeholders and as a platform for improving the safety and quality of life and livelihoods of people of African descent, as well as an advisory body to the Human Rights Council;

12. *Requests* the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action to devote at least half of its annual session to the elaboration of a draft United Nations declaration on the promotion and full respect of the human rights of people of African descent, to be considered during the high-level closing event of the International Decade for People of African Descent, to be held in the final year of the Decade;[311]

13. *Invites* the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent and the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, in accordance with their respective mandates, to contribute to the elaboration of a draft United Nations declaration on the promotion and full respect of the human rights of people of African descent;

14. *Recalls* the draft programme of action for the International Decade for People of African Descent as an instructive framework in which all the initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life of people of African descent are anchored and which, if adopted, would contribute to the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent;

15. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent[312] and on a global call for concrete action for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;[313]

16. *Acknowledges and profoundly regrets* the untold suffering and evils inflicted on millions of men and women and children as a result of slavery, the slave trade, the transatlantic slave trade, colonialism, apartheid, genocide and past tragedies, noting that some States have taken the initiative to apologize and have paid reparations, where appropriate, for grave and massive violations committed, further calls upon those that have not yet expressed remorse or presented apologies to find some way to contribute to the restoration of the dignity of victims, and calls upon all the relevant States that have not already done so to dispense reparatory justice, contributing to the development and recognition of the dignity of the affected States and their people;

17. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent,[314] invites the Human Rights Council, through the Chair of the Working Group, to continue to submit a report on the work of the Working Group to the General Assembly, and in this regard invites the Chair of the Working Group to engage in an interactive dialogue with the Assembly under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance" at its seventy-eighth session;

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[311] See resolution 69/16.

[312] A/77/333.

[313] A/77/294.

[314] A/77/232.

18. *Takes note with appreciation* of the proclamation of 31 August as the International Day for People of African Descent, and invites all Member States, all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, the private sector and academia, as well as civil society, to observe the International Day for People of African Descent in an appropriate manner, in accordance with its resolution 75/170 of 16 December 2020;

19. *Stresses* that everyone, including people and communities of African descent, should be able to participate in an inclusive manner and guide the design and implementation of processes that contribute to halting, reversing and repairing the lasting consequences and ongoing manifestations of systemic racism, and notably acknowledges the important role that young people have played and should continue to play in these processes;

20. *Encourages* States to examine the extent and impact of systemic racism and to adopt effective legal, policy and institutional measures that address racism beyond a summation of individualized acts, recommends that progress be measured according to indicators grounded in impact rather than intent, and further calls for the recognition of the impact of racial discrimination and inequality experienced by children and youth of African descent in all areas of life, including the administration of justice, law enforcement, education, health, family life and development;[315]

21. *Welcomes* the establishment of an international independent expert mechanism, comprising three experts with law enforcement and human rights expertise, aimed at furthering transformative change for racial justice and equality in the context of law enforcement globally, especially where relating to the legacies of colonialism and the transatlantic slave trade in enslaved Africans, to investigate the responses of Governments to peaceful anti-racism protests and all violations of international human rights law and to contribute to accountability and redress for victims;

22. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat to continue awareness-raising efforts and public information campaigns in support of the International Decade for People of African Descent through the use of social networks and digital media, including the wide distribution of user-friendly, concise and accessible versions of material in this regard;

III
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandates of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent, the Group of Independent Eminent Experts on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards and the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent, and in this regard to ensure the participation of experts in each session of those follow-up mechanisms in order to provide advice on the specific issues under discussion and assist the mechanisms in their deliberations and the adoption of action-oriented recommendations in relation to the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

24. *Recalls* Human Rights Council resolutions 43/1 and 47/21, and welcomes the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of Africans and of people of African descent against excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officers and the annex thereto, entitled "Four-point Agenda towards Transformative Change for Racial Justice and Equality", submitted pursuant to resolution 43/1;[316]

25. *Stresses* the importance of consolidating all efforts aimed at combating racism under a single anti-racial discrimination unit, including on the issues of racial equality and justice;

[315] See A/77/294.

[316] A/HRC/47/53.

IV
Group of Independent Eminent Experts on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

26. *Recalls* the report of the Group of Independent Eminent Experts on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action on its seventh session,[317] and in this regard notes that the session, which took place in private and virtually, was held on 26 October 2021;

27. *Notes* resolution 51/32 of the Human Rights Council entitled "From rhetoric to reality: a global call for concrete action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance" and the recommendations contained therein with regard to the Group of Independent Eminent Experts, further agrees to limit the tenure of the Eminent Experts to four years, which may be renewed once, and that the current Experts will continue to serve until the appointment of new Experts is finalized, and requests that the limit of tenure also apply to the continued service of Experts already appointed as of the date of adoption of the present resolution;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint the five Eminent Experts, one from each region, from among candidates proposed by the President of the Human Rights Council, after consultation with the regional groups, in line with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action[318] and paragraph 13 of resolution 56/266, by the end of 2023;

29. *Requests* the five regional groups to nominate a candidate for appointment to the Group of Independent Eminent Experts in a timely fashion;

V
Trust fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

30. *Recalls* the establishment by the Secretary-General, in 1973, of the trust fund for the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination as a funding mechanism that has been utilized for the implementation of the activities of the three Decades for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination declared by the General Assembly, and in this regard appreciates the fact that the trust fund has also been utilized for the subsequent programmes and operational activities transcending the three Decades;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, a section outlining the progress in the implementation of paragraph 18 of its resolution 68/151 of 18 December 2013 regarding the revitalization of the trust fund for the purpose of ensuring the successful implementation of the activities of the International Decade for People of African Descent and enhancing the effectiveness of the comprehensive follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

32. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals, as well as other donors in a position to do so, to contribute generously to the trust fund, and to that end requests the Secretary-General to continue to undertake appropriate contacts and initiatives to encourage contributions;

VI
Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

33. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[319] and encourages the Special Rapporteur, within her mandate, to continue to focus on the issues of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

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[317] See A/77/233.

[318] A/CONF.189/12, para. 191 (b).

[319] A/77/512.

and incitement to hatred, which impede peaceful coexistence and harmony within societies, and to submit reports in this regard to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly;

34. *Reiterates its previous requests* to the Special Rapporteur to consider examining national models of mechanisms that measure racial equality and their value added in the eradication of racial discrimination and to report on such challenges, successes and best practices in her next report, and expresses concern at the lack of progress in this regard;

VII
Commemoration of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

35. *Takes note with appreciation* of the adoption of a political declaration aimed at mobilizing political will at the national, regional and international levels for the full and effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and its follow-up processes during a one day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, on 22 September 2021, commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, under the theme "Reparations, racial justice and equality for people of African descent";[320]

36. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of increasing public support for the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the participation of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in its realization, and requests the United Nations system to strengthen its awareness-raising campaigns to increase the visibility of the message of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, its follow-up mechanisms and the work of the United Nations in the fight against racism;[321]

37. *Invites* Member States, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders to organize and support various high-visibility initiatives, aimed at effectively increasing awareness at all levels, to commemorate the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a programme of outreach, with the involvement of Member States and United Nations funds and programmes, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to appropriately commemorate the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

39. *Calls upon* Member States and the United Nations system to intensify efforts to widely distribute copies of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and encourages efforts to ensure its translation and wide dissemination;

40. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing work of the mechanisms mandated to follow up on the World Conference and the Durban Review Conference;

VIII
Follow-up and implementation activities

41. *Acknowledges* the guidance and leadership role of the Human Rights Council, and encourages it to continue to oversee the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome documents of the Durban Review Conference and the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

42. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the Human Rights Council with all the support necessary for it to achieve its objectives in this regard;

43. *Welcomes* the consideration by the Human Rights Council, at its fifty-first session, of the question of a multi-year programme of activities to provide for the renewed and strengthened outreach activities needed to inform and mobilize the global public in support of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action and to strengthen awareness of the contribution that they have made in the struggle against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia

[320] Political declaration entitled "United against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance" (resolution 76/1).

[321] See Human Rights Council resolution 51/32; see also A/77/233.

and related intolerance, in consultation with Member States, national human rights institutions, relevant civil society organizations and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;

44. *Also welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Human Rights Council, through its Advisory Committee, in preparing a study on appropriate ways and means of assessing the situation regarding racial equality, while identifying possible gaps and overlaps;

45. *Further welcomes* the commemorative event in March 2022 to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, on the theme "Voices for action against racism";

46. *Takes note with appreciation* of the commemorative plenary meeting of the General Assembly held on 29 March 2022 to mark the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

48. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Human Rights Council to continue to convene annual commemorative meetings of the Assembly and the Council during the commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, with the appropriate focus and themes, and in this context encourages the participation of eminent personalities active in the struggle against racial discrimination, Member States and civil society organizations in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly and the Council, respectively;

49. *Decides* to remain seized of this priority matter at its seventy-eighth session under the item entitled "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance".

RESOLUTION 77/206

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 130 to 52, with 4 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/462, para. 35)[322]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Liberia, Mexico, Palau, Switzerland

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[322] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Central African Republic, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

77/206. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 76/151 of 16 December 2021, and Human Rights Council resolutions on the subject, including resolution 51/13 of 6 October 2022,[323] as well as all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights in this regard,

Recalling also all of its relevant resolutions, in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit or use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling further the relevant resolutions and international instruments adopted by the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity, inter alia, the Organization of African Unity Convention for the elimination of mercenarism in Africa,[324] as well as by the African Union,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the self-determination of peoples, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States,

Reaffirming also that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, all peoples have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development and that every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

Reaffirming the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[325]

Acknowledging with appreciation the work and contributions of the open-ended intergovernmental working group established by the Human Rights Council with the mandate of considering the possibility of elaborating an international regulatory framework, including the option of elaborating a legally binding instrument on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies,

Alarmed and concerned at the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries in various parts of the world, in particular in areas of armed conflict, and about the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of the affected countries,

Deeply concerned at the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policies and economies of affected countries resulting from international criminal mercenary activities,

Convinced that, notwithstanding the way in which mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are used or the form that they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, they are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of all human rights by peoples,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the latest report of the Working Group of the Human Rights Council on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;[326]

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing, protection and training are causes for grave concern to all States and that they violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

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[323] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[324] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1490, No. 25573.

[325] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[326] A/77/268.

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers encourage, inter alia, the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges*, once again, all States to take the steps necessary and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control are not used for, and that their nationals do not take part in, the recruitment, assembly, financing, training, protection or transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to impede the right of peoples to self-determination, to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or to dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in accordance with the right of peoples to self-determination;

5. *Requests* all States to exercise the utmost vigilance against any kind of recruitment, training, hiring or financing of mercenaries by private companies offering international military consultancy and security services, and to impose a specific ban on such companies intervening in armed conflicts or actions to destabilize constitutional regimes;

6. *Encourages* States that import military assistance or consultancy and security services provided by private companies to establish national regulatory mechanisms for registering and licensing those companies in order to ensure that the imported services provided by those private companies neither impede the enjoyment of human rights nor violate human rights in the recipient country;

7. *Emphasizes its utmost concern* about the impact of the activities of private military and security companies on the enjoyment of human rights, in particular when operating in armed conflicts, and notes that private military and security companies and their personnel are rarely held accountable for violations of human rights;

8. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries;[327]

9. *Welcomes* the cooperation extended by those countries that have received a visit by the Working Group on the use of mercenaries since the establishment of its mandate and the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

10. *Condemns* recent mercenary activities in developing countries in various parts of the world, in particular in areas of conflict, and the threat they pose to the integrity of and respect for the constitutional order of those countries and the exercise of the right of their peoples to self-determination, and stresses the importance for the Working Group on the use of mercenaries of looking into sources and root causes, as well as the political motivations of mercenaries and for mercenary-related activities;

11. *Calls upon* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever and wherever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur and to bring to trial those found responsible or to consider their extradition, if so requested, in accordance with national law and applicable bilateral or international treaties;

12. *Condemns* any form of impunity granted to perpetrators of mercenary activities and to those responsible for the use, recruitment, financing and training of mercenaries, and urges all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to bring them, without distinction, to justice;

13. *Calls upon* Member States, in accordance with their obligations under international law, to cooperate with and assist the judicial prosecution of those accused of mercenary activities in transparent, open and fair trials;

14. *Requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries and other experts to continue their participation, including by submitting contributions, in other subsidiary bodies of the Human Rights Council considering issues related to the use of mercenaries and mercenary-related activities in all their forms and manifestations, including private military and security companies;

15. *Requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to continue its work with respect to the strengthening of the international legal framework for the prevention and sanction of the recruitment, use, financing and training of mercenaries, taking into account the proposal for a new legal definition of a mercenary drafted by the Special Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries as a means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-

[327] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2163, No. 37789.

determination in his report submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its sixtieth session[328] and the evolving phenomenon of mercenaries and its related forms;

16. *Also requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to continue to study and identify sources and causes, emerging issues, manifestations and trends regarding mercenaries or mercenary-related activities and private military and security companies and their impact on human rights, particularly on the right of peoples to self-determination;

17. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right of peoples to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by those activities;

18. *Recommends* that all Member States, including those confronted with the phenomenon of private military and security companies, as contracting States, States of operations, home States or States whose nationals are employed to work for a private military and security company, contribute to the work of the open-ended intergovernmental working group, taking into account the initial work done by the Working Group on the use of mercenaries;

19. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Working Group on the use of mercenaries in the fulfilment of its mandate;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the Working Group on the use of mercenaries with all the assistance and support necessary for the fulfilment of its mandate, both professional and financial, including through the promotion of cooperation between the Working Group and other components of the United Nations system that deal with countering mercenary-related activities, in order to meet the demands of its current and future activities;

21. *Requests* the Working Group on the use of mercenaries to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on the implementation of the present resolution and to report, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session its findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the enjoyment of all human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;

22. *Decides* to consider the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination at its seventy-eighth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 77/207

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/462, para. 35)[329]

77/207. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied

[328] See E/CN.4/2004/15, para. 47.

[329] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Eswatini, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe and State of Palestine.

in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[330] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been or are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its sixty-first[331] and previous sessions,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 76/152 of 16 December 2021,

Reaffirming also its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, containing the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and recalling its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, containing the 2005 World Summit Outcome, which, inter alia, upheld the right to self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[332]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed in the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and with honour;

5. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to continue to give special attention to violations of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

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[330] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[331] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23, E/2005/23/Corr.1 and E/2005/23/Corr.2), chap. II, sect. A.

[332] A/77/265.

RESOLUTION 77/208

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 167 to 6, with 9 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/462, para. 35)[333]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Chad, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

Abstaining: Cameroon, Guatemala, Kiribati, Malawi, Palau, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Togo, Tuvalu

77/208. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

Recalling, in this regard, its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, entitled "Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations",

Bearing in mind the International Covenants on Human Rights,[334] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[335] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[336] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[337]

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[338]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[339]

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[333] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe and State of Palestine.

[334] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[335] Resolution 217 A (III).

[336] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[337] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[338] Resolution 50/6.

[339] Resolution 55/2.

Recalling further the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory,[340] and noting in particular the reply of the Court, including on the right of peoples to self-determination, which is a right *erga omnes*,[341]

Recalling the conclusion of the Court, in its advisory opinion of 9 July 2004, that the construction of the wall by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, along with measures previously taken, severely impedes the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination,[342]

Stressing the urgency of achieving without delay an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides, based on the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the Madrid terms of reference, including the principle of land for peace, the Arab Peace Initiative[343] and the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict,[344]

Stressing also the need for respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and recalling in this regard its resolution 58/292 of 6 May 2004,

Recalling its resolution 76/150 of 16 December 2021,

Recalling also its resolution 67/19 of 29 November 2012,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

2. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination.

RESOLUTION 77/209

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.1, para. 14)[345]

77/209. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Reaffirming also that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Recalling that freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is a non-derogable right under international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, which must be respected and protected under all circumstances, including in times of international and

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[340] See A/ES-10/273 and A/ES-10/273/Corr.1.

[341] Ibid., advisory opinion, para. 88.

[342] Ibid., para. 122.

[343] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

[344] S/2003/529, annex.

[345] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

non-international armed conflict or internal disturbances and tensions or any other public emergency, that the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is affirmed in relevant international instruments and that legal and procedural safeguards against such acts must not be subject to measures that would circumvent this right,

Recalling also that the prohibition of torture is a peremptory norm of international law without territorial limitation and that international, regional and domestic courts have recognized the prohibition of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment as customary international law,

Recalling further the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[346] and the obligation of States to abide strictly by the definition of torture contained in article 1, without prejudice to any international instrument or national legislation which contains or may contain provisions of wider application, and emphasizing the importance of properly interpreting and implementing the obligations of States with respect to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Recognizing that States must protect the rights of those facing criminal sentences, including the death penalty and life imprisonment without the possibility of parole, and of other affected persons in accordance with their international obligations,

Noting that, under the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[347] torture or inhuman treatment are a grave breach and that, under the statute of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, the statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[348] acts of torture can constitute crimes against humanity and, when committed in a situation of armed conflict, constitute war crimes,

Recognizing the importance of the implementation of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[349] which makes a significant contribution to the prevention and prohibition of torture, including by prohibiting secret places of detention and by ensuring legal and procedural safeguards for persons deprived of their liberty, and encouraging all States that have not done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

Recognizing also that the prevalence of corruption, including in law enforcement and justice systems, can have a negative impact on the fight against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including by eroding fundamental safeguards and preventing victims of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment from effectively seeking justice, redress and compensation through the justice system,

Recognizing further that police and other law enforcement officials play a vital role in the protection of the right to life, liberty and security of persons, and in serving the community and protecting all persons against acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and that, in the performance of their duties, law enforcement officials are obligated to respect and protect the human rights of all persons, and in this regard, recognizing the importance of promptly and impartially investigating as well as employing non-coercive interviewing techniques and implementing associated legal safeguards to prevent torture and to effectively obtain accurate and reliable information,

Recognizing that the effective implementation of the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment promotes, inter alia, peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development,

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[346] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[347] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[348] Ibid., vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[349] Ibid., vol. 2716, No. 48088.

contributes to access to justice for all, builds effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels and contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,[350]

Commending the persistent efforts of civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, as well as national human rights institutions and national preventive mechanisms, and the considerable network of centres for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, to prevent and combat torture and to alleviate the suffering of victims of torture,

Deeply concerned about all acts which can amount to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment committed against persons exercising their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association and freedom of expression in all regions of the world,

1. *Condemns* all forms of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including through intimidation, which are and shall remain prohibited at any time and in any place whatsoever and can thus never be justified, and calls upon all States to implement fully the absolute and non-derogable prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

2. *Also condemns* any action or attempt by States or public officials to legalize, instigate, authorize, consent to or acquiesce in torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment under any circumstances, including on grounds of national security and counter-terrorism or through judicial decisions, and urges States to ensure the accountability of those responsible for all such acts;

3. *Stresses* that States must neither punish personnel for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment nor allow pleas of *respondeat superior* as a criminal defence in cases in which such orders were obeyed;

4. *Emphasizes* that acts of torture or inhuman treatment are grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions of 1949, that acts of torture and cruel treatment in armed conflict are serious violations of international humanitarian law and in this regard constitute war crimes, that acts of torture can constitute crimes against humanity and that the perpetrators of all acts of torture must be prosecuted and punished, and in this regard notes the efforts of the International Criminal Court to end impunity by seeking to ensure accountability and punishment of perpetrators of such acts, in accordance with the Rome Statute, bearing in mind its principle of complementarity, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Rome Statute;

5. *Also emphasizes* that States must take persistent, determined and effective measures to prevent and combat all acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, stresses that all acts of torture must be made offences under national criminal law punishable by appropriate penalties that take into account their grave nature, and calls upon States to prohibit under national law acts constituting cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

6. *Stresses* that States must ensure that no statement or evidence that is established to have been obtained as a result of torture is invoked as evidence in any proceedings, except against a person accused of torture as evidence that the statement or evidence was obtained, urges States to extend that prohibition to statements or evidence obtained as a result of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and recognizes that adequate corroboration of statements, including confessions, used as evidence in any proceedings constitutes one safeguard for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

7. *Urges* States not to expel, return ("refouler"), extradite or in any other way transfer a person to another State where there are substantial grounds for believing that the person would be in danger of being subjected to torture, stresses the importance of effective legal and procedural safeguards in this regard, and recognizes that diplomatic assurances, where given, do not release States from their obligations under international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, in particular the principle of non-refoulement;

8. *Recalls* that, for the purpose of determining whether there are substantial grounds for believing that a person would be in danger of being subjected to torture, the competent authorities shall take into account all relevant

[350] See resolution 70/1.

considerations, including, where applicable, the existence in the State concerned of a consistent pattern of gross, flagrant or mass violations of human rights;

9. *Urges* States to ensure that border control operations and reception centres fully comply with international human rights obligations and commitments, including the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

10. *Calls upon* all States to adopt and implement effective measures to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in particular in the context of the use of force by law enforcement officials and in places of detention and other places where persons are deprived of their liberty, including legal and procedural safeguards, as well as to ensure that the competent judicial or disciplinary authorities and, where relevant, the prosecution can effectively ensure compliance with such safeguards;

11. *Also calls upon* all States to take effective measures to ensure that the use of force by police and other law enforcement officials, including the use of less-lethal weapons, is in conformity with international obligations and the principles of legality, necessity, proportionality, accountability and non-discrimination, and that those using force account for each use of force, bearing in mind that lethal force may only be used as a last resort to protect against an imminent threat to life or grievous bodily harm, and recalls in this regard Human Rights Council resolution 46/15 of 23 March 2021;[351]

12. *Recalls* its resolution 43/173 of 9 December 1988 on the Body of Principles for the Protection of All Persons under Any Form of Detention or Imprisonment, and in this context stresses that ensuring that any individual arrested or detained is promptly brought before a judge or other independent judicial officer in person, facilitating access to legal counsel without delay, and permitting prompt and regular medical care including, where necessary, an age, disability- and gender-responsive medical and psychological examination that respects the inherent dignity of the person and upholds their full human rights throughout all stages of detention, as well as visits by family members and independent monitoring mechanisms, are effective measures for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

13. *Stresses* the obligation of States to ensure that all persons who are arrested or detained are informed at the time of arrest or detention of the reasons for the arrest or detention and are promptly informed of any charges against them, in accessible forms of communication, including in a language that they understand, and are provided with information about, and an explanation of, their rights and are provided with consular notification and access, as appropriate, and calls upon States to take steps to notify the fact of the detention to a relative or another third party;

14. *Calls upon* States to include education and information regarding the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in the training of law enforcement personnel and other personnel authorized to resort to force or who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment, which may include training on the use of force, all available modern scientific methods for the investigation of crimes and the critical importance of reporting instances of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to superior authorities;

15. *Emphasizes* that States shall keep under systematic review interrogation rules, instructions, methods and practices, as well as arrangements for the custody and treatment of persons subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment in any territory under their jurisdiction, and stresses the importance of the development of domestic guidelines on the conduct of interrogations, with a view to preventing any cases of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

16. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations and Information Gathering (the Méndez Principles), and encourages States to use them as appropriate through the implementation of national measures, including non-coercive interviewing methods and procedural safeguards, thereby operationalizing the presumption of innocence, ensuring that no person is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment during questioning, as well as improving effective policing, criminal justice investigations, prosecutions, convictions and other forms of information-gathering processes;

[351] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/76/53), chap. V., sect. A.

17. *Encourages* all States to take appropriate effective legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures to apply the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules);[352]

18. *Reminds* all States that prolonged incommunicado detention or detention in secret places can facilitate the perpetration of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and can in itself constitute a form of such treatment, and urges all States to respect the safeguards concerning the liberty, security and dignity of the person and to ensure that prolonged incommunicado detention and secret places of detention and interrogation are abolished;

19. *Emphasizes* that conditions of detention must respect the dignity and human rights of persons deprived of their liberty, highlights the importance of reflecting on this in efforts to promote respect for and protection of the rights of persons deprived of their liberty, calls upon States to address and prevent detention conditions amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, notes in this regard concerns about solitary confinement, and encourages States to take effective measures to address overcrowding in detention facilities, which may have an impact on the dignity and human rights of persons deprived of their liberty;

20. *Welcomes* the establishment of national preventive mechanisms to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, urges States to consider establishing, appointing, maintaining or enhancing independent and effective mechanisms that have experts with the required capabilities and professional knowledge to undertake monitoring visits to places of detention and other places under State jurisdiction and control where persons are or may be deprived of their liberty, inter alia, with a view to preventing acts of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and calls upon States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[353] to fulfil their obligation to designate or establish national preventive mechanisms at the latest one year after the entry into force of the Protocol or of its ratification or accession, that are truly independent, composed of experts with the required capabilities and professional knowledge, properly resourced and further, to consider the recommendations of such mechanisms, to encourage public debate and to engage in constructive dialogue with such mechanisms on possible implementation measures;

21. *Calls upon* all States to take appropriate effective legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures to prevent and prohibit the production, trade, export, import and use of equipment that has no practical use other than for the purpose of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and in this regard takes note of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts, pursuant to resolution 73/304 of 28 June 2019;

22. *Urges* States, as an important element in preventing and combating torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, to ensure that no authority or official orders, applies, permits or tolerates any sanction, reprisal, intimidation or other prejudice against any person, group or association, including persons deprived of their liberty, for contacting, seeking to contact or having been in contact with any national or international monitoring or preventive body or other relevant stakeholders active in the prevention and combating of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

23. *Also urges* States to ensure accountability for any act of sanction, reprisal, intimidation or other form of unlawful prejudicial conduct against any person, group or association, including persons deprived of their liberty, for cooperating, seeking to cooperate or having cooperated with any national or international monitoring or preventive body active in the prevention and combating of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, by ensuring impartial, prompt, independent and thorough investigations of any alleged act of sanction, reprisal, intimidation or other form of unlawful prejudicial conduct; to bring the perpetrators to justice; to provide access to effective remedies for victims, in accordance with their international human rights obligations and commitments; and to prevent any recurrence;

24. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment to fulfil their obligation to submit for prosecution or extradite those alleged to have committed acts of torture, regardless of where such acts were committed, if the alleged offender is present in any territory under their jurisdiction, and encourages other States also to do so, bearing in mind the need to fight impunity;

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[352] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[353] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2375, No. 24841.

25. *Encourages* States to consider establishing or maintaining appropriate national processes to record allegations and cases of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including through efficient and secure data collection, processing and management systems, and to ensure that such information is accessible in accordance with applicable law;

26. *Stresses* that an independent, competent domestic authority must promptly, effectively and impartially investigate all allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, as well as wherever there is reasonable ground to believe that such an act has been committed, and that those who encourage, instigate, order, tolerate, acquiesce in, consent to or perpetrate such acts must be held responsible, brought to justice and punished in a manner commensurate with the severity of the offence, including the officials in charge of any place of detention or other place where persons are deprived of their liberty where the prohibited act is found to have been committed;

27. *Recalls*, in this respect, the Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (the Istanbul Principles)[354] as a valuable tool in efforts to prevent and combat torture and the updated set of principles for the protection and promotion of human rights through action to combat impunity;[355]

28. *Takes note with appreciation*, in this respect, of the updated Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Istanbul Protocol) as a valuable tool to address impunity for torture and ill-treatment by setting out international standards for the conduct of effective legal and medico-legal investigations into allegations of torture or ill-treatment;

29. *Emphasizes* that it is important for law enforcement officials to be able to play their role in safeguarding the right not to be subjected to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and for States to ensure the proper functioning of the criminal justice system, in particular by taking effective measures to combat corruption, establish proper legal aid programmes and to provide for the adequate selection, training and remuneration of law enforcement officials while fully respecting the principles of non-discrimination, and taking measures to improve the representation of women and persons belonging to minorities within law enforcement ranks whenever possible;

30. *Encourages* all States to ensure that persons charged with torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment have no involvement in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any person under arrest, detention, imprisonment or other deprivation of liberty while such charges are pending and, if such persons are convicted, after the conviction;

31. *Calls upon* all States to adopt a victim-oriented approach[356] in the fight against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, paying special attention to the views and needs of victims in policy development and other activities relating to rehabilitation, prevention and accountability for torture;

32. *Also calls upon* all States to adopt a gender-responsive approach in the fight against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including by taking into consideration the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[357] and to pay special attention to sexual and gender-based violence;

33. *Calls upon* States to ensure that the rights of persons who are marginalized and in vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities, bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[358] are fully integrated into torture prevention and protection, and welcomes the efforts of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in this regard;

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[354] Resolution 55/89, annex.

[355] E/CN.4/2005/102/Add.1.

[356] See A/HRC/16/52.

[357] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[358] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

34. *Stresses* that national legal systems must ensure that victims of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment have effective access to justice and obtain redress, and that the complainants and witnesses are protected against all ill-treatment or intimidation as a consequence of making a complaint or giving evidence;

35. *Calls upon* States to provide redress for victims of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, encompassing effective remedy and adequate, effective and prompt reparation, which should include restitution, fair and adequate compensation, rehabilitation, satisfaction and guarantees of non-repetition, taking into full account the specific needs of the victim;

36. *Urges* States to ensure that appropriate rehabilitation services are promptly available to all victims without discrimination of any kind and without limitation in time, until the fullest rehabilitation possible has been achieved, and are provided either directly by the public health system or through the funding of private rehabilitation facilities, including those administered by civil society organizations, and to consider making rehabilitation services available to the immediate families or dependants of the victims and to persons who have suffered harm while intervening to assist victims in distress or to prevent victimization;

37. *Also urges* States to establish, maintain, facilitate or support rehabilitation centres or facilities where victims can receive such treatment and where effective measures for ensuring the safety of their staff and patients are taken;

38. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention against Torture and the Optional Protocol thereto as a matter of priority;

39. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to make the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention concerning inter-State and individual communications, to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20, to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to articles 17 and 18, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of the Committee against Torture as soon as possible, and to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including, in view of the high number of reports not submitted in time, their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning persons who are marginalized and in vulnerable situations, including children and juveniles and persons with disabilities, when submitting reports to the Committee;

40. *Welcomes* the work and the reports of the Committee and of the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, recommends that their reports continue to include information on the follow-up by States parties to their recommendations, invites States to make the Subcommittee's reports public, and supports the Committee and the Subcommittee in their efforts to further improve the effectiveness of their working methods;

41. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Committee and the Subcommittee having due regard to the principle of non-discrimination, paying particular attention to the rights of those who are marginalized or in vulnerable situations, including through a victim-oriented and gender-responsive approach in the fight against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

42. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with his mandate established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, and other relevant United Nations entities, in accordance with their mandates and existing resources, to continue to provide, at the request of States, advisory services for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including for the preparation of national reports to the Committee, for the implementation of recommendations of the Committee, and for the establishment and operation of national preventive mechanisms, as well as technical assistance, including for the development, production and distribution of teaching materials for this purpose, and further calls upon the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the support necessary to enable the Subcommittee to provide advice and assistance to States parties to the Optional Protocol;

43. *Emphasizes* the importance of States ensuring proper follow-up to the recommendations and conclusions of the relevant treaty bodies and mechanisms, including the Committee, the Subcommittee, national preventive mechanisms and the Special Rapporteur, while recognizing the important role of the universal periodic review, national human rights institutions and other relevant national or regional bodies in preventing torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

44. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the newly-appointed Special Rapporteur, presenting her priorities with respect to eradicating torture and other ill-treatment, encourages her to include, in her recommendations, proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including its gender-based manifestations, requests her to consider including in her reports information on the follow-up by States to her recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered, and on other official contacts, and further encourages future collaboration between practitioners, experts and other relevant stakeholders towards these goals;

45. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of her tasks, to supply all necessary information requested by her, to fully and expeditiously respond to and follow up on her urgent appeals, to give serious consideration to responding favourably to requests by her to visit their countries and to enter into a constructive dialogue with her on requested visits to their countries as well as with respect to the follow-up to her recommendations;

46. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views among the Committee, the Subcommittee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as for the pursuit of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, with regional organizations and mechanisms, as appropriate, and with civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, with a view to enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to the prevention and eradication of torture by, inter alia, improving coordination;

47. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in preventing and combating torture and assisting victims of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including, in particular, the Committee, the Subcommittee and the Special Rapporteur, commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for preventing and combating torture and assisting victims of torture, in order to enable them to discharge their mandates in a comprehensive, sustained and effective manner, and taking fully into account the specific nature of their mandates;

48. *Recognizes* the global need for international assistance to victims of torture, stresses the importance of the work of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, appeals to all States and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, and welcomes the establishment of and encourages contributions to the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol to support the implementation of the recommendations made by the Subcommittee and of educational programmes by the national preventive mechanisms;

49. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to transmit to all States the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Funds, to include the Funds, on an annual basis, among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, and to submit to the Human Rights Council, and to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth, seventy-ninth and eightieth sessions, a report on the operations of the Funds, and encourages the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture to continuously raise awareness among States and relevant stakeholders about the overall trends and developments in its operations;

50. *Welcomes and acknowledges* the work of the Convention against Torture Initiative, launched in March 2014 on the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention, to achieve the universal ratification and improved implementation of the Convention by 2024, as well as related regional initiatives on the prevention and eradication of torture;

51. *Calls upon* all States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

52. *Decides* to consider at its seventy-eighth, seventy-ninth and eightieth sessions the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture and the Special Fund established by the Optional Protocol, the report of the Committee, the report of the Subcommittee and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur;

53. *Also decides* to give its full consideration to the subject matter at its eightieth session.

RESOLUTION 77/210

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.1, para. 14)[359]

77/210. Human rights treaty body system

The General Assembly,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[360] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[361] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[362] the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[363] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[364] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[365] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[366] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[367] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[368] and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[369]

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/17 of 28 May 1985,

Recalling further its resolution 68/268 of 9 April 2014 on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system,

Recalling its resolution 75/174 of 16 December 2020 on the human rights treaty body system,

Reaffirming that the full and effective implementation of international human rights instruments by States parties is of major importance to the efforts of the United Nations to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and that the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system is indispensable for the full and effective implementation of such instruments,

Recognizing the important, valuable and unique role and contribution of each of the human rights treaty bodies in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including through their examination of the progress made by States parties to the respective human rights treaties in fulfilling their relevant obligations and their provision of recommendations to States parties on the implementation of such treaties,

Expressing concern over the effect that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and COVID-19-related restrictions had on the work of the treaty bodies and efforts to address the backlog of State party reports pending review, including full suspension or postponement of sessions between 13 March 2020 and 6 September 2021,

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[359] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[360] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[361] Ibid.

[362] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[363] Ibid., vol. 2716, No. 48088.

[364] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

[365] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[366] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[367] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[368] Ibid., vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[369] Ibid., vol. 2375, No. 24841.

Emphasizing the importance of multilingualism in the activities of the United Nations, including those linked to the promotion and protection of human rights, and reaffirming the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations for the effective functioning of the human rights treaty bodies,

Welcoming the ongoing process of the consideration of the state of the human rights treaty body system, and taking note of the 2020 report of the co-facilitators, the Permanent Representatives of Morocco and Switzerland to the United Nations, to the President of the General Assembly,[370]

Noting the human rights treaty bodies' continuing efforts, within their respective mandates, towards achieving greater efficiency, transparency, effectiveness, predictability, coordination and harmonization through their working methods, outlined in the report of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies on their thirty-fourth annual meeting,[371]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the human rights treaty body system;[372]

2. *Welcomes* the annual reports of the human rights treaty bodies submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth[373] and seventy-seventh[374] sessions and to the Economic and Social Council at its 2021[375] and 2022 sessions;[376]

3. *Invites* the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions under the item relevant to the work of the treaty body;

4. *Encourages* all stakeholders to continue their efforts for the full implementation of resolution 68/268;

5. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 26 to 28 of its resolution 68/268, in which it set out how the allocation of meeting time to the treaty bodies would be identified and requested the Secretary-General to provide the corresponding financial and human resources, decided that the meeting time allocated would be reviewed biennially and amended on that basis at the request of the Secretary-General in line with established budgetary procedures, and requested the Secretary-General accordingly to take into account the meeting time needed by the human rights treaty body system in his future biennial programme budget;

6. *Notes* that the COVID-19 pandemic showed the need to strengthen the capacity of the treaty bodies to engage and interact online, also notes the considerable potential of digitalization for improved efficiency, transparency and accessibility of the treaty bodies and the interaction with all relevant stakeholders, and encourages the treaty bodies to continue their efforts to further the use of digital technologies in their work, while stressing that in-person interaction remains a crucial component of the work of the treaty bodies;

7. *Expresses appreciation* for the organization of discussions on matters related to the implementation of each human rights treaty at meetings of the States parties thereto, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to support such practices;

8. *Also expresses appreciation* for the opportunity to interact with the Chairs of the treaty bodies during their annual meetings, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to support such opportunities;

9. *Further expresses appreciation* for the advisory services, capacity-building and technical assistance provided by the Secretary-General to support States parties in building their capacity to implement their treaty obligations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

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[370] A/75/601, annex.

[371] See A/77/228.

[372] A/77/279.

[373] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/76/18); ibid., *Supplement No. 38* (A/76/38); ibid., *Supplement No. 40* (A/76/40); ibid., *Supplement No. 44* (A/76/44); ibid., *Supplement No. 48* (A/76/48); ibid., *Supplement No. 55* (A/76/55); and ibid., *Supplement No. 56* (A/76/56); see also A/76/254.

[374] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/77/18); ibid., *Supplement No. 38* (A/77/38); ibid., *Supplement No. 40* (A/77/40); ibid., *Supplement No. 41* (A/77/41); ibid., *Supplement No. 44* (A/77/44); ibid., *Supplement No. 48* (A/77/48); and ibid., *Supplement No. 56* (A/77/56).

[375] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2021, Supplement No. 2* (E/2021/22).

[376] Ibid., *2022, Supplement No. 2* (E/2022/22).

10. *Reiterates its request*, made in paragraph 40 of its resolution 68/268, that the Secretary-General submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the status of the human rights treaty body system.

RESOLUTION 77/211

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[377]

77/211. The right to privacy in the digital age

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[378] and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[379] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[380] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[381]

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 68/167 of 18 December 2013, 69/166 of 18 December 2014, 71/199 of 19 December 2016, 73/179 of 17 December 2018 and 75/176 of 16 December 2020 on the right to privacy in the digital age, and resolution 45/95 of 14 December 1990 on guidelines for the regulation of computerized personal data files, as well as Human Rights Council resolutions 28/16 of 26 March 2015,[382] 34/7 of 23 March 2017,[383] 37/2 of 22 March 2018,[384] 42/15 of 26 September 2019[385] and 48/4 of 7 October 2021[386] on the right to privacy in the digital age and resolutions 32/13 of 1 July 2016[387] and 38/7 of 5 July 2018[388] on the promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet,

Recalling also the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,[389]

Taking note of the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to privacy,[390] the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression[391] and the relevant reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the

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[377] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and Uruguay.

[378] Resolution 217 A (III).

[379] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[380] Ibid.

[381] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[382] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[383] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[384] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/73/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[385] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/74/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[386] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session*, *Supplement No. 53A* (A/76/53/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[387] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[388] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/73/53), chap. VI, sect. A.

[389] Resolution 70/125.

[390] A/HRC/43/52, A/HRC/46/37, A/HRC/49/55, A/75/147 and A/76/220.

[391] A/HRC/44/49, A/HRC/50/29, A/75/261 and A/76/258.

rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association,[392] as well as the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[393]

Welcoming the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the right to privacy in the digital age, noting with interest the reports of the High Commissioner thereon,[394] and recalling the expert workshops on the right to privacy in the digital age held on 19 and 20 February 2018 and on 27 and 28 May 2020,

Taking note of the Secretary-General's strategy on new technologies and his Road Map for Digital Cooperation,[395] and noting the discussions that take place annually in the Internet Governance Forum, which is a multi-stakeholder forum for the discussion of Internet governance issues and whose mandate was extended by the General Assembly in 2015 for another 10 years, and recognizing that effectively addressing the challenges relating to the right to privacy in the context of modern communications technology requires an ongoing, concerted multi-stakeholder engagement,

Noting that the rapid pace of technological development enables individuals all over the world to use new information and communications technologies that empower people, improve lives, strengthen justice and boost productivity, and at the same time enhances the capacity of Governments, business enterprises and individuals to undertake surveillance, interception, hacking and data collection, which may violate or abuse human rights, in particular the right to privacy, as set out in article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and is therefore an issue of increasing concern,

Noting also that violations and abuses of the right to privacy in the digital age can affect all individuals, with particular effects on women, children, in particular girls, persons with disabilities and older persons, as well as those in vulnerable situations,

Recognizing that new and emerging digital technologies, in particular assistive digital technologies, can especially contribute to the full enjoyment of human rights by persons with disabilities, and that these technologies should be designed in consultation with them and with appropriate safeguards to protect their rights, including their right to privacy,

Recognizing also that the promotion of and respect for the right to privacy are important to the prevention of violence, including gender-based violence, abuse and sexual harassment, in particular against women and children, as well as any form of discrimination, which can occur in digital and online spaces and includes cyberbullying and cyberstalking,

Noting that children can be particularly vulnerable to abuses and violations of their right to privacy,

Noting also that States parties should implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child[396] in relation to the digital environment, including the importance of privacy to children's agency, dignity and safety, and for the exercise of their rights,

Reaffirming the human right to privacy, according to which no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference, and recognizing that the exercise of the right to privacy is important for the realization of the right to freedom of expression and to hold opinions without interference and the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and is one of the foundations of a democratic society,

Recalling with appreciation general comment No. 16 of the Human Rights Committee on article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, on the right to respect of privacy, family, home and

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[392] A/HRC/44/50, A/HRC/50/23, A/HRC/50/42 and A/75/184.

[393] A/HRC/44/57, A/75/329 and A/76/434.

[394] A/HRC/48/31 and A/HRC/51/17.

[395] A/74/821.

[396] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

correspondence, and protection of honour and reputation,[397] while also noting the vast technological leaps that have taken place since its adoption and the need to discuss the right to privacy in view of the challenges of the digital age,

Recognizing the need to further discuss and analyse, based on international human rights law, issues relating to the promotion and protection of the right to privacy in the digital age, procedural safeguards, effective domestic oversight and remedies, the impact of surveillance on the right to privacy and other human rights, as well as the need to examine the principles of non-arbitrariness, lawfulness, legality, necessity and proportionality in relation to surveillance practices,

Recognizing also that the discussion on the right to privacy should be based upon existing international and domestic legal obligations, including international human rights law, as well as relevant commitments, and should not open the path for undue interference with an individual's human rights,

Recognizing further the need to ensure that international human rights obligations are respected in the conception, design, development, deployment, evaluation and regulation of data-driven technologies and to ensure that they are subject to adequate safeguards and oversight,

Stressing the importance of full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, including the fundamental importance of access to information and democratic participation,

Recognizing that the right to privacy is important for the enjoyment of other rights and can contribute to an individual's ability to participate in political, economic, social and cultural life, and noting with concern that violations or abuses of the right to be free from unlawful or arbitrary interference with the right to privacy might affect the enjoyment of other human rights, including the right to freedom of expression and to hold opinions without interference, and the right to peaceful assembly and freedom of association,

Noting that, while metadata may provide benefits, certain types of metadata, when aggregated, can reveal personal information that can be no less sensitive than the actual content of communications and can give an insight into an individual's behaviour, social relationships, private preferences and identity,

Expressing concern that individuals, particularly children, often do not and/or cannot provide their free, explicit and informed consent to the collection, processing and storage of their data or to the reuse, sale or multiple resale of their personal data, as the collection, processing, use, storage and sharing of personal data, including sensitive data, have increased significantly in the digital age,

Noting that general comment No. 16 of the Human Rights Committee recommends that States take effective measures to prevent the unlawful retention, processing and use of personal data stored by public authorities and business enterprises,

Noting also that the use of artificial intelligence can contribute to the promotion and protection of human rights and has the potential to transform Governments and societies, economic sectors and the world of work and can also have various far-reaching implications, including with regard to the right to privacy,

Noting with concern that artificial intelligence or machine-learning technologies, without proper technical, regulatory, legal and ethical safeguards, may lead to decisions that have the potential to affect the enjoyment of human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, and affect non-discrimination, and recognizing the need to apply international human rights law and data protection frameworks in the design, evaluation and regulation of these practices,

Recognizing that, while the use of artificial intelligence can have significant positive economic and social impacts, it requires and allows for the processing of large amounts of data, often relating to personal data, including biometric data and data on an individual's behaviour, social relationships, race or ethnicity, religion or belief, which can pose serious risks to the enjoyment of the right to privacy, especially when done without proper safeguards, in particular when employed for identification, tracking, profiling, facial recognition, classification, behaviour prediction or scoring of individuals,

Noting that the use of artificial intelligence may, without proper technical, regulatory, legal and ethical safeguards, pose the risk of reinforcing discrimination, including structural inequalities, and recognizing that racially

[397] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/43/40), annex VI.

and otherwise discriminatory outcomes should be prevented in the design, development, implementation and use of emerging digital technologies,

Noting with concern that certain predictive algorithms are likely to result in discrimination, including when non-representative data are used,

Noting that the use of algorithmic or automated decision-making processes online can affect the enjoyment of individuals' rights offline,

Noting also that the use of data extraction and algorithms to target content towards online users may undermine user agency and access to information online, as well as the right to freedom of opinion and expression,

Noting with concern reports indicating lower accuracy of facial recognition technologies with certain groups, including when non-representative training data are used, that the use of digital technologies can exacerbate racial inequality and in this context the importance of effective remedies,

Emphasizing that unlawful or arbitrary surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as the unlawful or arbitrary collection of personal data, hacking and the unlawful use of biometric technologies, as highly intrusive acts, violate the right to privacy, can interfere with the right to freedom of expression and to hold opinions without interference, the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association and the right to freedom of religion or belief and may contradict the tenets of a democratic society, including when undertaken extraterritorially or on a mass scale,

Recognizing that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, including the right to privacy,

Noting that the accelerated synchronization of online and offline spaces can affect individuals' enjoyment of their human rights, including their right to privacy,

Noting in particular that surveillance of digital communications must be consistent with international human rights obligations and must be conducted on the basis of a legal framework, which must be publicly accessible, clear, precise, comprehensive and non-discriminatory, and that any interference with the right to privacy must not be arbitrary or unlawful, bearing in mind what is reasonable with regard to the pursuance of legitimate aims, and recalling that States that are parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights must take the necessary steps to adopt laws or other measures as may be necessary to give effect to the rights recognized in the Covenant,

Expressing concern about the spread of disinformation and misinformation, particularly on social media platforms, which can be designed and implemented so as to mislead, to spread racism, xenophobia, negative stereotyping and stigmatization, to violate and abuse human rights, including the right to privacy, to impede freedom of expression, including the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, and to incite all forms of violence, hatred, intolerance, discrimination and hostility, and emphasizing the important contribution of journalists, civil society and academia in countering this trend,

Noting with deep concern that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms, journalists and other media workers may frequently face threats and harassment and suffer insecurity, as well as unlawful or arbitrary interference with their right to privacy, as a result of their activities,

Noting with deep concern also the use of technological tools developed by the private surveillance industry and by private or public actors to undertake surveillance, hacking of devices and systems, interception and disruption of communications, and data collection, interfering with the professional and private lives of individuals, including those engaged in the promotion and defence of human rights and fundamental freedoms, journalists and other media workers, in violation or abuse of their human rights, specifically the right to privacy,

Emphasizing that States must respect international human rights obligations regarding the right to privacy when they intercept digital communications of individuals and/or collect personal data, when they share or otherwise provide access to data collected through, inter alia, information- and intelligence-sharing agreements and when they require disclosure of personal data from third parties, including business enterprises,

Noting the increase in the collection of sensitive biometric information from individuals, and stressing that States must comply with their human rights obligations and that business enterprises should respect the right to privacy and

other human rights when collecting, processing, sharing and storing biometric information by, inter alia, adopting data protection policies and safeguards,

Deeply concerned at the negative impact that surveillance and/or interception of communications, including extraterritorial surveillance and/or interception of communications, as well as the collection of personal data, in particular when carried out on a mass scale, may have on the exercise and enjoyment of human rights,

Emphasizing that, in the digital age, technical solutions to secure and to protect the confidentiality of digital communications and transactions, including measures for strong encryption, pseudonymization and anonymity, are important to ensure the enjoyment of human rights, in particular the rights to privacy, to freedom of opinion and expression and to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, and recognizing that States should promote such measures and refrain from employing unlawful or arbitrary surveillance techniques, which may include forms of hacking,

Noting that, while concerns about public security may justify the gathering and protection of certain sensitive information, States must ensure full compliance with their obligations under international human rights law,

Noting also, in that respect, that the prevention and suppression of terrorism is a public interest of great importance, while reaffirming that States must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism are in compliance with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Recognizing that a lack of access to affordable and reliable technologies and services remains a critical challenge in many developing countries,

Stressing the need to address prevailing challenges to bridge the digital divides, both between and within countries, and the gender digital divide, and to harness information and communications technologies for development, and recalling the need to emphasize quality of access to bridge digital and knowledge divides, using a multidimensional approach that includes speed, stability, affordability, language, training, capacity-building, local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities, and to promote the full enjoyment of human rights, including the right to privacy,

Stressing also the need to ensure that national security and public health measures, including the use of technology to monitor and contain the spread of infectious diseases, are in full compliance with the obligations of States under international human rights law and adhere to the principles of lawfulness, legality, legitimacy with regard to the aim pursued, necessity and proportionality and the need to protect human rights, including the right to privacy, and personal data in the response to health or other emergencies,

Noting the importance of protecting and respecting the right of individuals to privacy when designing, developing or deploying technological means in response to disasters, epidemics and pandemics, especially the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including digital exposure notification and contact tracing,

Noting also that new and emerging digital technologies can contribute to the recovery from global health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic, and recalling in this regard the importance of protecting human health-related and other personal data, while noting with concern that some efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic have an adverse impact on the enjoyment of the right to privacy,

1. *Reaffirms* the right to privacy, according to which no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference, as set out in article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

2. *Recognizes* the global and open nature of the Internet and the rapid advancement in information and communications technologies as a driving force in accelerating progress towards development in its various forms, including in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;[398]

3. *Affirms* that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online, including the right to privacy, with special regard given to the protection of children;

[398] See resolution 70/1.

4. *Recalls* that States should ensure that any interference with the right to privacy is consistent with the principles of legality, necessity and proportionality;

5. *Encourages* all States to promote an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment based on respect for international law, including the obligations enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and human rights instruments;

6. *Acknowledges* that the conception, design, use, deployment and further development of new and emerging technologies, such as those that involve artificial intelligence, may have an impact on the enjoyment of the right to privacy and other human rights, and that the risks to these rights can and should be avoided and minimized by adapting or adopting adequate regulation or other appropriate mechanisms, in accordance with applicable obligations under international human rights law, for the conception, design, development and deployment of new and emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, by taking measures to ensure a safe, transparent, accountable, secure and high quality data infrastructure and by developing human rights-based auditing mechanisms and redress mechanisms and establishing human oversight;

7. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To respect and protect the right to privacy, both online and offline, including in the context of digital communications and new and emerging technologies;

(b) To invite all relevant stakeholders to further discuss how emerging phenomena, such as the push for widespread adoption of blockchain, expanded and virtual reality technologies and the development of increasingly powerful neurotechnology, without proper safeguards, have an impact on the enjoyment of the right to privacy and the right to freedom of opinion and expression;

(c) To take measures to put an end to violations of the right to privacy and to create the conditions to prevent such violations, including by ensuring that relevant national legislation complies with their obligations under international human rights law;

(d) To review, on a regular basis, their procedures, practices and legislation regarding the surveillance of communications, their interception and the collection of personal data, including mass surveillance, interception and collection, as well as regarding the use of profiling, automated decision-making, machine learning and biometric technologies, with a view to upholding the right to privacy by ensuring the full and effective implementation of all their obligations under international human rights law;

(e) To establish or maintain existing independent, effective, adequately resourced and impartial judicial, administrative and/or parliamentary domestic oversight mechanisms capable of ensuring transparency, as appropriate, and accountability for State surveillance of communications, their interception and the collection of personal data;

(f) To provide individuals whose right to privacy has been violated by unlawful or arbitrary surveillance with access to an effective remedy, consistent with international human rights obligations;

(g) To consider developing or maintaining and implementing adequate legislation, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, including business enterprises, international organizations and civil society, with effective sanctions and appropriate remedies, that protects individuals against violations and abuses of the right to privacy, namely through the unlawful and arbitrary collection, processing, retention, sharing or use of personal data by individuals, Governments, business enterprises and private organizations;

(h) To consider developing or maintaining and implementing legislation, regulations and policies to ensure that all business enterprises, including social media enterprises and other online platforms, fully respect the right to privacy and other relevant human rights in the design, development, deployment and evaluation of technologies, including artificial intelligence, and to provide individuals whose rights may have been violated or abused with access to an effective remedy, including compensation and guarantees of non-repetition;

(i) To consider adopting or maintaining data protection legislation, regulation and policies, including on digital communication data, that comply with their international human rights obligations, which could include the establishment of national independent authorities with powers and resources to monitor data privacy practices, investigate violations and abuses and receive communications from individuals and organizations, and to provide appropriate remedies;

(j) To further develop or maintain, in this regard, preventive measures and remedies for violations and abuses of the right to privacy in the digital age that may affect all individuals, including where there are particular effects for women, as well as children;

(k) To consider developing, reviewing, implementing and strengthening gender-responsive policies that promote and protect the right of all individuals to privacy in the digital age;

(l) To provide effective and up-to-date guidance to business enterprises on how to respect human rights by advising on appropriate methods, including human rights due diligence, and on how to consider effectively issues of gender, vulnerability and/or marginalization;

(m) To promote quality education and lifelong educational opportunities for all to foster, inter alia, digital literacy and technical skills to effectively protect their privacy;

(n) To refrain from requiring business enterprises to take steps that interfere with the right to privacy in an arbitrary or unlawful way;

(o) To protect individuals from violations or abuses of the right to privacy, including those which are caused by arbitrary or unlawful data collection, processing, storage and sharing, profiling and the use of automated processes and machine learning;

(p) To take steps to enable business enterprises to adopt adequate voluntary transparency measures with regard to requests by State authorities for access to private user data and information;

(q) To consider developing or to maintain legislation, preventive measures and remedies addressing harm from the processing, use, sale or multiple resale or other corporate sharing of personal data without the individual's free, explicit, meaningful and informed consent;

(r) To ensure that digital or biometric identity programmes are designed, implemented and operated after appropriate technical, regulatory, legal and ethical safeguards are in place and in full compliance with the obligations of States under international human rights law;

8. *Calls upon* all business enterprises, in particular those that collect, store, use, share and process data:

(a) To meet their responsibility to respect human rights in accordance with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework,[399] including the right to privacy in the digital age, and to enhance efforts in this regard;

(b) To inform users in a clear, easily accessible and age-appropriate way about the collection, use, sharing and retention of their data that may affect their right to privacy, to refrain from doing so without their consent or a legal basis and to establish and to apply transparency policies that allow for the free, informed and meaningful consent of users, as appropriate;

(c) To implement administrative, technical and physical safeguards to ensure that data are processed lawfully and to ensure that such processing is limited to what is necessary in relation to the purposes of the processing and that the legitimacy of such purposes, as well as the accuracy, integrity and confidentiality of the processing, is ensured;

(d) To ensure that respect for the right to privacy and other international human rights is incorporated into the design, operation, evaluation and regulation of automated decision-making and machine-learning technologies and to provide for compensation for the human rights abuses that they may cause or to which they may contribute;

(e) To ensure that individuals have access to their personal data and to adopt appropriate measures for the possibility to amend, correct, update, delete and withdraw consent for the data, in particular if the data are incorrect or inaccurate, or if the data were obtained illegally;

(f) To put in place adequate safeguards that seek to prevent or mitigate adverse human rights impacts that are directly linked to their operations, products or services, including where necessary through contractual clauses or notification of any relevant entities of abuses or violations when misuse of their products and services is detected;

[399] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

(g) To enhance efforts to combat discrimination resulting from the use of artificial intelligence systems, including by exercising due diligence in assessing, preventing and mitigating the adverse human rights impacts of their deployment;

9. *Encourages* business enterprises to work towards enabling technical solutions to secure and protect the confidentiality of digital communications, which may include measures for encryption, pseudonymization and anonymity, and calls upon States not to interfere with the use of such technical solutions, with any restrictions thereon complying with the obligations of States under international human rights law, and to enact policies that recognize and protect the privacy of individuals' digital communications;

10. *Encourages* States and, where applicable, business enterprises to systematically conduct human rights due diligence throughout the life cycle of the artificial intelligence systems that they conceptualize, design, develop, deploy, sell, obtain or operate, including regular and comprehensive human rights impact assessments and the participation of all relevant stakeholders;

11. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to mainstream a gender perspective into the conceptualization, development and implementation of digital technologies and related policies and promote the participation of women in order to address violence and discrimination against women and girls in digital contexts, inter alia, by encouraging digital technology companies, including Internet service providers, to respect standards and implement transparent and accessible reporting mechanisms;

12. *Emphasizes* that, in the digital age, encryption and anonymity tools have become vital for many journalists and media workers to freely exercise their work and their enjoyment of human rights, in particular their rights to freedom of expression and to privacy, including to secure their communications and to protect the confidentiality of their sources, and calls upon States not to interfere with the use by journalists and media workers of such technologies and to ensure that any restrictions thereon comply with the obligations of States under international human rights law;

13. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to participate in informal dialogues about the right to privacy, and takes note with appreciation of the contribution of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to privacy to this process;

14. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-ninth session.

RESOLUTION 77/212

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 132 to 25, with 28 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[400]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

[400] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and Solomon Islands.

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Uruguay

77/212. The right to development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, which expresses, in particular, the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom and, to that end, to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[401] as well as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[402] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[403]

Recalling also the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, which confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations, and that the individual is the central subject and beneficiary of development,

Emphasizing the urgent need to make the right to development a reality for everyone,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that they must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Stressing the importance of the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in 1993, and that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[404] reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights and the individual as the central subject and beneficiary of development,

Welcoming in this regard the upcoming thirtieth anniversary, in 2023, of the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and stressing the need to strengthen efforts towards its implementation,

Reaffirming the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000,[405]

Recognizing the importance of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[406] reaffirming that the Declaration on the Right to Development informed the 2030 Agenda, along with other relevant international instruments, and underlining the fact that the Sustainable Development Goals can be realized only through a credible, effective and universal commitment to the means of implementation by all stakeholders,

Recognizing also the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, that recognizes that the New Urban Agenda[407] is grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights treaties, the Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome[408] and is informed by other instruments such as the Declaration on the Right to Development,

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[401] Resolution 217 A (III).

[402] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[403] Ibid.

[404] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[405] Resolution 55/2.

[406] Resolution 70/1.

[407] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[408] Resolution 60/1.

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[409]

Reaffirming the universality, indivisibility, interrelatedness, interdependence and mutually reinforcing nature of all human rights, including civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development, and that they must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and its outcome document,[410]

Deeply concerned that the majority of Indigenous Peoples in the world live in conditions of poverty, and recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty and inequity on Indigenous Peoples by ensuring their full and effective inclusion in development and poverty eradication programmes,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives, and in that context noting that the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international levels should be universal and conducted without conditions attached and that the international community should support the strengthening and promotion of democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all in the entire world,

Recognizing that inequality is a major obstacle to the realization of the right to development within and across countries,

Taking note of the commitment declared by a number of specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other international organizations to make the right to development a reality for all, and in this regard urging all relevant bodies of the United Nations system and other international organizations to mainstream the right to development into their objectives, policies, programmes and operational activities, as well as into development and development-related processes, including the follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Recalling the outcomes adopted at the Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Nairobi from 15 to 19 December 2015,

Calling for a successful, development-oriented outcome of the trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization, in particular on the remaining issues of the Doha Development Round, as a contribution to the creation of international conditions permitting the full realization of the right to development,

Recalling the outcome of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016, on the theme "From decision to action: moving towards an inclusive and equitable global economic environment for trade and development",[411]

Recalling also all its previous resolutions on the subject, the most recent of which was resolution 76/163 of 16 December 2021, as well as Human Rights Council resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to development, in particular Commission resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998[412] on the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development,

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolution 35/21 of 22 June 2017 on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights,[413]

Recalling the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, on 25 and 26 October 2019, and the previous summits and conferences at which the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries stressed the need to operationalize the right to development as

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[409] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[410] Resolution 69/2.

[411] See TD/519, TD/519/Add.1, TD/519/Add.2 and TD/519/Add.2/Corr.1.

[412] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[413] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. V, sect. A.

a priority, including through the elaboration of a convention on the right to development by the relevant machinery, taking into account the recommendations of relevant initiatives,

Reiterating its continuing support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development[414] as a development framework for Africa,

Deeply concerned about the negative impacts of the global economic and financial crises on the realization of the right to development,

Recognizing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is one of the greatest global challenges in the history of the United Nations, and noting with deep concern its impact on health and the loss of life, mental health and well-being, as well as the negative impact on global humanitarian needs, the enjoyment of human rights and across all spheres of society, including on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, and education, the exacerbation of poverty and hunger, disruption to economies, trade, societies and environments, and the exacerbation of economic and social inequalities within and among countries,

Recognizing also that the poorest and most vulnerable are the hardest hit by the pandemic and that the impact of the crisis will reverse hard-won development gains and hamper progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as progress with regard to the right to development,

Deeply concerned about the uneven access of developing countries to safe, quality, efficacious, effective, accessible and affordable vaccines against COVID-19, and emphasizing that the realization of the right to development would enhance the capacities of developing countries to have equal access to vaccines and other means to respond to and recover from the pandemic, as well as the need to strengthen the support for national, bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives that aim to accelerate the development and production of and equitable access to COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines,

Recognizing that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights,

Recognizing also that Member States should cooperate with one another in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development, that the international community should promote effective international cooperation, in particular to revitalize a global partnership for development, for the realization of the right to development and the elimination of obstacles to development and that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

Recognizing further that poverty is an affront to human dignity,

Recognizing that extreme poverty and hunger are among the greatest global threats and require the collective commitment of the international community for their eradication, pursuant to Millennium Development Goal 1 and Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2, and therefore calling upon the international community, including the Human Rights Council, to contribute towards achieving that goal,

Recognizing also that historical injustices, inter alia, have contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparity, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing further that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is one of the critical elements in the promotion and realization of the right to development and is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, which requires a multifaceted and integrated approach, and committed to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner,

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

[414] A/57/304, annex.

Emphasizing 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,

Encouraging relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, relevant international organizations, including the World Trade Organization, and relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to give due consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to cooperate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the fulfilment of his mandate with regard to the implementation of the right to development,

1. *Takes note* of the consolidated report of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights concerning the promotion and realization of the right to development;[415]

2. *Acknowledges* the need to strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

3. *Emphasizes* the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 establishing the Human Rights Council, and in this regard calls upon the Council to implement the agreement to continue to act to ensure that its agenda promotes and advances sustainable development, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which seeks to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve, and also in this regard to lead the raising of the right to development, as set out in paragraphs 5 and 10 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, to the same level as and on a par with all other human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Working Group on the Right to Development,[416] and recognizes the need for renewed efforts with a view to overcoming the existing political impasse within the Working Group and to fulfil at the earliest its mandate as established by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1998/72 and the Human Rights Council in its resolution 4/4 of 30 March 2007;[417]

5. *Stresses* the importance of the core principles contained in the conclusions of the Working Group at its third session[418] that are congruent with the purpose of international human rights instruments, such as equality, non-discrimination, accountability, participation and international cooperation, as critical to mainstreaming the right to development at the national and international levels, and underlines the importance of the principles of equity and transparency;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Working Group on its twenty-first session;[419]

7. *Notes* the presentation to the Working Group at its nineteenth session of the set of standards for the implementation of the right to development prepared by the Chair-Rapporteur,[420] which is a useful basis for further deliberations on the implementation and realization of the right to development;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the Working Group, including, inter alia, on the elaboration of a draft legally binding instrument on the right to development on the basis of the draft prepared by the Chair-Rapporteur, as decided by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 42/23 of 27 September 2019,[421] and in this regard notes the report of the Chair-Rapporteur entitled "Draft convention on the right to development",[422] submitted to the Working Group at its twenty-first session;

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[415] A/HRC/51/22.

[416] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. I.

[417] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[418] See E/CN.4/2002/28/Rev.1, sect. VIII.A.

[419] A/HRC/48/64.

[420] A/HRC/WG.2/17/2.

[421] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/74/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[422] A/HRC/WG.2/21/2.

9. *Stresses* that it is important that the Chair-Rapporteur and the Working Group, in the discharge of their mandates, take into account the need:

(a) To promote the democratization of the system of international governance in order to increase the effective participation of developing countries in international decision-making;

(b) To also promote effective partnerships such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development and other similar initiatives with the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, for the purpose of the realization of their right to development, including the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(c) To strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level, while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also while urging all States to expand and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development in the context of promoting effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development, bearing in mind that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level and a favourable economic environment at the international level;

(d) To consider ways and means to continue to ensure the operationalization of the right to development as a priority, including in the context of the response to and the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, through equitable and fair access for all countries, particularly the most vulnerable countries and countries in special situations, to vaccines and medicines as global public goods, sharing the benefits of scientific progress, financial and technological support and debt relief;

(e) To mainstream the right to development into the policies and operational activities of the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as in the policies and strategies of the international financial and multilateral trading systems, bearing in mind in this regard that the core principles of the international economic, commercial and financial spheres, such as equity, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, participation and international cooperation, including effective partnerships for development, are indispensable in achieving the right to development and preventing discriminatory treatment arising from political or other non-economic considerations in addressing the issues of concern to the developing countries;

10. *Encourages* the Human Rights Council to continue to consider how to ensure follow-up to the work of the former Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on the right to development, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and in compliance with decisions to be taken by the Council;

11. *Takes note* of the convening, in 2022, of the fifth and sixth sessions the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 42/23, and noting the annual report of the Expert Mechanism;[423]

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to development,[424] in which the Special Rapporteur examines the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic from the perspective of the right to development at the international level;

13. *Stresses* that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation and hence should not result in a reduction of North-South cooperation or hamper progress in fulfilling existing official development assistance commitments, and encourages Member States and other relevant stakeholders to incorporate the right to development into the design, financing and implementation of cooperation processes;

14. *Urges* Member States, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to provide the Special Rapporteur on the right to development with all the assistance and support necessary for the fulfilment of his mandate;

[423] A/HRC/51/36.

[424] A/77/174.

15. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implement the goals and targets set out in all the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their review processes, in particular those relating to the realization of the right to development, recognizing that the realization of the right to development is critical to achieving the objectives, goals and targets set out in those outcome documents;

16. *Also reaffirms* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, a lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

17. *Further reaffirms* that development contributes significantly to the enjoyment of all human rights by all, and calls upon all countries to realize people-centred development of the people, by the people and for the people;

18. *Calls upon* all States to spare no effort in promoting and protecting all human rights for all, including the right to development, in particular while implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and responding to and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, as it is conducive to the overall enjoyment of human rights;

19. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of all human rights lies with the State, and reaffirms that States have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized;

20. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of States to create national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development, as well as their commitment to cooperate with one another to that end;

21. *Also reaffirms* its commitment to international cooperation and multilateralism and its strong support for the central role of the United Nations system in the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

22. *Further reaffirms* its resolution 74/274 of 20 April 2020, in which it recognized the importance of international cooperation and effective multilateralism in helping to ensure that all States have in place effective national protective measures, access to and flow of vital medical supplies, therapeutics, medicines and vaccines, in order to minimize negative effects in all affected States and to avoid relapses of the COVID-19 pandemic;

23. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant stakeholders to strengthen international cooperation, as well as their support for multilateral efforts and for the central role of the United Nations system, in order to mobilize a coordinated global response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its adverse social, economic and financial impact on all societies that contributes to the realization of the right to development and leaves no one behind;

24. *Expresses concern* about the increasing cases of human rights violations and abuses by some transnational corporations and other business enterprises, underlines the need to ensure that appropriate protection, justice and remedies are provided to the victims of human rights violations and abuses resulting from their activities, and underscores the fact that these entities must contribute to the means of implementation for the realization of the right to development;

25. *Reaffirms* the need for an international environment that is conducive to the realization of the right to development;

26. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of identifying and analysing obstacles impeding the full realization of the right to development at both the national and international levels, including in the context of the response to and the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic;

27. *Reaffirms* that, while globalization offers both opportunities and challenges, the process of globalization remains deficient in achieving the objectives of integrating all countries into a globalized world, stresses the need for policies and measures at the national and global levels to respond to the challenges and opportunities of globalization if this process is to be made fully inclusive and equitable, and recognizes that globalization has brought disparities between and within countries and that issues such as trade and trade liberalization, the transfer of technology, infrastructure development and market access should be managed effectively in order to mitigate the challenges of poverty and underdevelopment and to make the right to development a reality for everyone;

28. *Recognizes* that, despite continuous efforts on the part of the international community, the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide, that most of the developing countries continue to

face difficulties in participating in the globalization process and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

29. *Expresses its deep concern*, in this regard, about the negative impact on the realization of the right to development owing to the further aggravation of the economic and social situation, in particular of developing countries, as a result of the effects of international energy, food and financial crises, as well as the increasing challenges posed by global climate change and the loss of biodiversity, which have increased vulnerabilities and inequalities and have adversely affected development gains, in particular in developing countries;

30. *Encourages* Member States to give particular consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and emphasizes that the 2030 Agenda promotes respect for all human rights, including the right to development;

31. *Recalls* the commitment in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of halving the number of people living in poverty by 2015, notes with concern that some developing countries have failed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard invites Member States and the international community to take proactive measures aimed at creating a conducive environment to contribute to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular increasing international cooperation, including partnership and commitment, between developed and developing countries towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

32. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to the least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

33. *Recognizes* the need to address market access for developing countries, including in the sectors of agriculture, services and non-agricultural products, in particular those of interest to developing countries;

34. *Calls once again for* the implementation of a desirable pace of meaningful trade liberalization, including in areas under negotiation in the World Trade Organization, the implementation of commitments on implementation-related issues and concerns, a review of special and differential treatment provisions, with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational, the avoidance of new forms of protectionism, and capacity-building and technical assistance for developing countries as important issues in making progress towards the effective implementation of the right to development;

35. *Recognizes* the important link between the international economic, commercial and financial spheres and the realization of the right to development, stresses in this regard the need for good governance and for broadening the base of decision-making at the international level on issues of development concern and the need to fill organizational gaps, as well as to strengthen the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions, and also stresses the need to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

36. *Also recognizes* that good governance and the rule of law at the national level assist all States in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, and agrees on the value of the ongoing efforts being made by States to identify and strengthen good governance practices, including transparent, responsible, accountable and participatory government, that are responsive and appropriate to their needs and aspirations, including in the context of agreed partnership approaches to development, capacity-building and technical assistance;

37. *Further recognizes* the important role and the rights of women and the application of a gender perspective as a cross-cutting issue in the process of realizing the right to development, and notes in particular the positive relationship between the education of women and their equal participation in the civil, cultural, economic, political and social activities of the community and the promotion of the right to development;

38. *Stresses* the need for the integration of the rights of children, girls and boys alike, in all policies and programmes and for ensuring the promotion and protection of those rights, especially in areas relating to health, education and the full development of their capacities;

39. *Recalls* 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 and AIDS,[425] and underscores the importance of enhanced international cooperation to support the efforts of Member States to achieve health goals, including the target of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030, implement universal access to health-care services and address health challenges;

40. *Also recalls* the political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases[426] and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the fight against tuberculosis,[427] both adopted on 10 October 2018, with their particular focus on development and other challenges and social and economic determinants and impacts, particularly for developing countries;

41. *Further recalls* the political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage entitled "Universal health coverage: moving together to build a healthier world", as adopted in its resolution 74/2 of 10 October 2019, in which it was reaffirmed that health is a precondition for and an outcome and indicator of the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

42. *Recalls* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[428] which entered into force on 3 May 2008, and General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", and, while recognizing persons with disabilities as agents and beneficiaries of development, stresses the need to take into consideration the rights of persons with disabilities and the importance of international cooperation in support of national efforts in the realization of the right to development;

43. *Stresses its commitment* to Indigenous Peoples in the process of the realization of the right to development, reaffirms the commitment to promote their rights in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security, in accordance with recognized international human rights obligations and taking into account, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007, and in this regard recalls the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held in 2014;

44. *Recognizes* the need for strong partnerships with civil society organizations and the private sector in pursuit of poverty eradication and development, as well as for corporate social responsibility;

45. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to take concrete and effective measures to prevent, combat and criminalize all forms of corruption at all levels, to prevent, detect and deter in a more effective manner international transfers of illicitly acquired assets and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[429] particularly chapter V thereof, stresses the importance of a genuine political commitment on the part of all Governments through a firm legal framework, and in this context urges States to sign and ratify the Convention as soon as possible and States parties to implement it effectively;

46. *Also emphasizes* the need to strengthen further the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and realization of the right to development, including by ensuring the effective use of the financial and human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide the Office with the necessary resources;

47. *Reaffirms* the request to the High Commissioner, in mainstreaming the right to development, to effectively undertake activities aimed at strengthening the global partnership for development among Member States, development agencies and the international development, financial and trade institutions and to reflect those activities in detail in his next report to the Human Rights Council;

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[425] Resolution 75/284, annex.

[426] Resolution 73/2.

[427] Resolution 73/3.

[428] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[429] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

48. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to mainstream the right to development into their operational programmes and objectives, and stresses the need for the international financial and multilateral trading systems to mainstream the right to development into their policies and objectives;

49. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs and bodies, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, international development and financial institutions, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations;

50. *Encourages* relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, relevant international organizations, including the World Trade Organization, and relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to give due consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to contribute further to the work of the Working Group on the Right to Development and the Special Rapporteur on the right to development and to cooperate with the High Commissioner in the fulfilment of his mandate with regard to the implementation of the right to development;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session and an interim report to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the present resolution, including on efforts undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and realization of the right to development, taking into account the context of the response to and the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, through equitable and fair access for all countries, in particular the most vulnerable countries and countries in special situations, to safe, quality, efficacious, effective, accessible and affordable vaccines and medicines as global public goods, as well as to promote global extensive immunization against COVID-19, sharing the benefits of scientific progress, financial and technological support and debt relief, and invites the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group and the Special Rapporteur to present an oral report with a similar scope and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 77/213

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[430]

77/213. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[431] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

Recalling its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which the General Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals,

Recalling also its adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on 8 September 2000,[432] its resolution 76/159 of 16 December 2021, Human Rights Council resolution 50/4 of 7 July 2022[433] and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recalling further the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, the Durban Review Conference,

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[430] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), El Salvador and Russian Federation.

[431] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[432] Resolution 55/2.

[433] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. VIII, sect. A.

held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009, and the political declarations of the high-level meetings of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth[434] and twentieth[435] anniversaries of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and their role in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

Recognizing also that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

Underlining that cooperation is not just a matter of relations of good-neighbourliness, coexistence or reciprocity, but rather of a willingness to look beyond mutual interests in order to advance the general interest,

Stressing the importance of international cooperation for improving the living conditions of all in every country, including, in particular, in developing countries,

Reaffirming 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,

Reiterating the important role that genuine human rights dialogue can play in the enhancement of cooperation in the field of human rights at the bilateral, regional and international levels,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation and genuine dialogue contributes to the effective functioning of the international human rights system,

Emphasizing that human rights dialogue should be constructive and based on the principles of universality, indivisibility, objectivity, non-selectivity, non-politicization, mutual respect and equal treatment, with the aim of facilitating mutual understanding and strengthening constructive cooperation, including through capacity-building and technical cooperation between States,

Emphasizing also the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all through, inter alia, international cooperation,

Underlining the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, on the promotion of dialogue on human rights issues, by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,[436]

Welcoming the upcoming thirtieth anniversary, in 2023, of the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action by the World Conference on Human Rights, and stressing the need to strengthen efforts towards its implementation,

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Recognizes* that, in addition to their separate responsibilities to their individual societies, States have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level;

3. *Reaffirms* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of peace, tolerance and respect for diversity, and welcomes in this regard the holding of conferences and meetings at the national, regional and international levels on dialogue among civilizations;

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[434] Resolution 66/3.

[435] Resolution 76/1.

[436] See E/CN.4/2001/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46, chap. II, sect. A.

4. *Also reaffirms* the duty of States to cooperate with one another in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations in the promotion of universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including with respect to the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and all forms of religious intolerance;

5. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

6. *Reaffirms* the importance of the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the achievement of the objectives of the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

7. *Considers* that international cooperation in the field of human rights, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, cooperation and genuine dialogue, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

9. *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;

10. *Also emphasizes* the need for a cooperative and constructive approach on the part of all stakeholders to resolving human rights issues in international forums;

11. *Further emphasizes* the role of international cooperation in support of national efforts and in increasing the capacities of Member States in the field of human rights through, inter alia, the enhancement of their cooperation with human rights mechanisms, including through the provision of technical assistance, upon the request of and in accordance with the priorities set by the States concerned;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

13. *Urges* States to take measures necessary to enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation aimed at addressing the adverse impact of consecutive and compounded global crises, such as financial and economic crises, food crises, climate change and natural disasters, on the full enjoyment of human rights;

14. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

15. *Encourages* all Member States and the United Nations system to explore and foster complementarities among North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation aiming at the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on ways and means, as well as on obstacles and challenges and possible proposals to overcome them, for the enhancement of international cooperation and genuine dialogue in the United Nations human rights machinery, including the Human Rights Council;

17. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 77/214

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 130 to 53, with 1 abstention,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[437]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Brazil

77/214. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on this subject, the most recent of which was resolution 76/161 of 16 December 2021, and Human Rights Council decision 18/120 of 30 September 2011[438] and resolutions 24/14 of 27 September 2013,[439] 27/21 of 26 September 2014,[440] 30/2 of 1 October 2015,[441] 36/10 of 28 September 2017,[442] 37/21 of 23 March 2018,[443] 40/3 of 21 March 2019,[444] 43/15 of 22 June 2020,[445] 46/5 of 23 March 2021[446] and 49/6 of 31 March 2022,[447] as well as previous resolutions of the Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

Reaffirming the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

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[437] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: China, Cuba (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries) and Russian Federation.

[438] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and A/66/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. III.

[439] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[440] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[441] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[442] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/72/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[443] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/73/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[444] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/74/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[445] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/75/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[446] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/76/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[447] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. VI, sect. A.

Recalling the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 52/120 of 12 December 1997[448] and 55/110 of 4 December 2000,[449]

Stressing that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States,

Recognizing the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and in this regard reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

Recalling the Final Document of the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,[450] the Final Document of the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, on 25 and 26 October 2019,[451] and the documents adopted at previous summits and conferences, in which States members of the Movement agreed to oppose and condemn unilateral coercive measures and their continued application, persevere with efforts to effectively reverse them, urge other States to do likewise, as called for by the General Assembly and other organs of the United Nations, and request States applying those measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately,

Recalling also that, at the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, States were called upon to refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights[452] and also severely threatens the freedom of trade,

Bearing in mind all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[453] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[454] the Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All and the Quito implementation plan for the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) on 20 October 2016,[455] and in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries,

Expressing concern about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

Recognizing that unilateral coercive measures disproportionally affect people in vulnerable situations, and in this regard expressing grave concern that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women, children, including adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities,

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[448] A/53/293 and A/53/293/Add.1.

[449] A/56/207 and A/56/207/Add.1.

[450] A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex I.

[451] A/74/548, annex.

[452] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III

[453] *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, annex I.

[454] *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.

[455] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Deeply concerned that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and recent major United Nations conferences, and contrary to general international law and the Charter, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented, with all their negative implications for the social humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

Bearing in mind all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

Reaffirming that unilateral coercive measures are a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development[456] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recognizing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is one of the greatest global challenges in the history of the United Nations, and noting with deep concern its impact on health and the loss of life, mental health and well-being, as well as the negative impact on global humanitarian needs, the enjoyment of human rights and across all spheres of society, including on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, and education, the exacerbation of poverty and hunger, disruption to economies, trade, societies and environments, and the exacerbation of economic and social inequalities within and among countries,

Recognizing also that the poorest and those who may be vulnerable or in vulnerable situations, within and among countries, are the hardest hit by the pandemic and that the impact of the crisis will reverse hard-won development gains and hamper progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as progress with regard to the right to development,

Deeply concerned about the situation of States facing both unilateral coercive measures, which are not in accordance with international law or the Charter, and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and recognizing that such States have to overcome additional obstacles derived from the application of unilateral coercive measures in order to respond to and recover from the pandemic,

Recognizing the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures, which are not in accordance with international law or the Charter, on global efforts to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and on the capacities of targeted countries to have equal access to safe, quality, efficacious, effective, accessible and affordable vaccines and other means to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic,

Concerned about the fact that the frequency, type, target and scope of application of unilateral coercive measures, which are not in accordance with international law or the Charter, have expanded enormously in the international arena,

Recalling article 1, paragraph 2, common to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[457] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[458] which provides, inter alia, that in no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence,

Noting the continuing efforts of the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, and reaffirming in particular its criteria, according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,

1. *Urges* all States to cease adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States, in particular those of a coercive nature, with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the

[456] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[457] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[458] Ibid.

Universal Declaration of Human Rights[459] and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of sustainable economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Condemns* the inclusion of Member States in unilateral lists under false pretexts, which are contrary to international law and the Charter, including false allegations of terrorism sponsorship, considering such lists as instruments for political or economic pressure against Member States, particularly developing countries;

4. *Urges* all States not to adopt any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular children and women, that hinder their well-being and that create obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for his or her health and well-being and his or her right to food, medical care and education and the necessary social services, as well as to ensure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure;

5. *Strongly objects* to the extraterritorial nature of those measures which, in addition, threaten the sovereignty of States, and in this context calls upon all Member States neither to recognize those measures nor to apply them, as well as to take administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial applications or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

6. *Condemns* the continuing unilateral application and enforcement by certain Powers of unilateral coercive measures, and rejects those measures, with all their extraterritorial effects, as being tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, adopted with a view to preventing those countries from exercising their right to decide, of their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems, and because of the negative effects of those measures on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

7. *Expresses grave concern* that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women, children, including adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

8. *Reaffirms* that essential goods such as food and medicines, including vaccines, should not be used as tools for political coercion, in particular in the context of global health challenges, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, and that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development;

9. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 74/274 of 20 April 2020, in which it recognized the importance of international cooperation and effective multilateralism in helping to ensure that all States have in place effective national protective measures, access to and flow of vital medical supplies, medicines and vaccines, in order to minimize negative effects in all affected States and to avoid relapses of the COVID-19 pandemic;

10. *Recognizes* the role of extensive immunization against COVID-19 as a global public good for health in preventing, containing and stopping transmission in order to bring the pandemic to an end, through safe, quality, efficacious, effective, accessible and affordable vaccines for all, including countries affected by unilateral coercive measures, which are not in accordance with international law or the Charter;

11. *Welcomes* the appeal made by the Secretary-General, on 26 March 2020, on the waiving of sanctions that undermine countries' capacity to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and the statement made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, on 23 March, on the need to ease or suspend sectoral sanctions in the light of their potentially debilitating impact on the health sector and human rights;

12. *Reaffirms* its commitment to international cooperation and multilateralism and its strong support for the central role of the United Nations system in the global response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic;

[459] Resolution 217 A (III).

13. *Emphasizes* that the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed the short- and long-term impacts of unilateral coercive measures, which are not in accordance with international law or the Charter, on the enjoyment of all categories of civil, economic, social and cultural rights;

14. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to abide by the principles of international law, the Charter, the declarations of the United Nations and world conferences and relevant resolutions and to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are parties by revoking such measures at the earliest possible time;

15. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

16. *Recalls* that, according to the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and the relevant principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, proclaimed by the Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX), in particular article 32 thereof, no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantages of any kind;

17. *Rejects* all attempts to introduce unilateral coercive measures, and urges the Human Rights Council to take fully into account the negative impact of those measures, including through the enactment and extraterritorial application of national laws that are not in conformity with international law, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

18. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging his functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in his annual report to the General Assembly;

19. *Underlines* the fact that unilateral coercive measures are one of the major obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[460] and in this regard calls upon all States to avoid the unilateral imposition of economic coercive measures and the extraterritorial application of national laws that run counter to the principles of free trade and hamper the development of developing countries, as recognized by the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council;

20. *Recognizes* that, in the Declaration of Principles adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,[461] States were strongly urged to avoid and refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations in building the information society;

21. *Reaffirms* paragraph 30 of the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

22. *Recalls* the decision of the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 27/21, to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, and welcomes the work done in delivering her mandate;

23. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights;[462]

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[460] Resolution 70/1.

[461] A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I, sect. A.

[462] A/77/296.

24. *Recalls* the decision taken by the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 45/5 of 6 October 2020,[463] to extend, for a period of three years, the mandate of the Special Rapporteur as set out in Council resolution 27/21;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and also requests them, in discharging their functions in relation to the promotion and protection of human rights, to pay due attention and to give urgent consideration to the present resolution;

26. *Recalls* that the Human Rights Council took note of the research-based progress report of its Advisory Committee containing recommendations on mechanisms to assess the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights and to promote accountability;[464]

27. *Also recalls* the contribution of the first biennial panel discussion on the issue of unilateral coercive measures and human rights organized by the Human Rights Council in 2015 to increase awareness of the negative impact that unilateral coercive measures have on the enjoyment of human rights in the targeted and non-targeted countries, and invites the Council to follow up on the discussion at the fourth panel discussion, in 2021;

28. *Invites* the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue paying attention to and explore ways to address the negative impact of the application of unilateral coercive measures;

29. *Reiterates its support* for the invitation of the Human Rights Council to all special rapporteurs and existing thematic mechanisms of the Council in the field of economic, social and cultural rights to pay due attention, within the scope of their respective mandates, to the negative impact and consequences of unilateral coercive measures;

30. *Takes note with interest* of the proposals contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, and requests the Special Rapporteur to include in her report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session more information on the process regarding the discussions of her proposals at the Human Rights Council;

31. *Reaffirms* the request of the Human Rights Council that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights organize a workshop on the impact of the application of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights by the affected populations, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, in the States targeted;

32. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the full enjoyment of human rights, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the access of targeted countries to vaccines;

33. *Invites* Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of her mandate through, inter alia, the submission of comments and suggestions on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on the full enjoyment of human rights;

34. *Decides* to examine the question on a priority basis at its seventy-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms" of the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

[463] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/75/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[464] A/HRC/28/74.

RESOLUTION 77/215

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 122 to 54, with 10 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[465]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Liberia, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Uruguay

77/215. Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, including resolution 76/165 of 16 December 2021, and Human Rights Council resolutions 18/6 of 29 September 2011,[466] 33/3 of 29 September 2016,[467] 36/4 of 28 September 2017,[468] 39/4 of 27 September 2018,[469] 42/8 of 26 September 2019,[470] 45/4 of 6 October 2020,[471] 48/8 of 8 October 2021[472] and 51/11 of 6 October 2022,[473]

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

Affirming that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights for all should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law, as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter, and with full respect for, inter alia, sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

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[465] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[466] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and A/66/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

[467] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

[468] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/72/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[469] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/73/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[470] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/74/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[471] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/75/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[472] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/76/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[473] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1), chap. III.

Recalling the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Reaffirming that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[474] can be fully realized,

Reaffirming also the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practise tolerance and good-neighbourliness and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Stressing that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social issues, including pandemics and other health-related global challenges, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally, and that in this regard the central role must be played by the United Nations, as the most universal and representative organization in the world,

Concerned about the continued abuse by Member States of the extraterritorial application of their national legislation in a manner that affects the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the full enjoyment of human rights,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights for all,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Recognizing that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

Emphasizing that democracy is not only a political concept, but that it also has economic and social dimensions,

Recognizing that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

Welcoming in this regard the upcoming thirtieth anniversary, in 2023, of the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[475] by the World Conference on Human Rights, and stressing the need to strengthen efforts towards its implementation,

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[474] Resolution 217 A (III).

[475] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Noting with concern that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, inter alia, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

Reaffirming that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation at all levels,

Underlining the fact that it is imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

Deeply concerned that the current global economic, financial, energy and food crises, resulting from a combination of several major factors, including macroeconomic and other factors, such as environmental degradation, desertification and global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of financial resources and the technology necessary to confront their negative impact in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries and small island developing States, represent a global scenario that is threatening the adequate enjoyment of all human rights and widening the gap between developed and developing countries,

Recognizing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is one of the greatest global challenges in the history of the United Nations, and noting with deep concern its impact on health and the loss of life, mental health and well-being, as well as the negative impact on global humanitarian needs, the enjoyment of human rights and across all spheres of society, including on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, and education, the exacerbation of poverty and hunger, disruption to economies, trade, societies and environments, and the exacerbation of economic and social inequalities within and among countries, which is reversing hard-won development gains and hampering progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[476] and all its Goals and targets,

Reaffirming its commitment to international cooperation and multilateralism and its strong support for the central role of the United Nations system, recognizing the key leadership role of the World Health Organization in the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and recognizing also that a democratic and equitable international order enhances the capacities of all countries to respond to and recover from the pandemic and other global challenges,

Recognizing the role of extensive immunization against COVID-19 as a global public good for health in preventing, containing and stopping transmission in order to bring the pandemic to an end, through global access to vaccines that are safe, of quality, efficacious, effective and affordable for all countries,

Deeply concerned about the uneven access of developing countries to safe, quality, efficacious, effective and affordable vaccines against COVID-19, and emphasizing that a multilateral approach, based on a democratic and equitable international order, enhances the capacities of all countries, in particular developing countries, to have equal access to vaccines and other means to respond to and recover from the pandemic,

Recognizing that a democratic and equitable order requires the reform of international financial institutions, in order to widen and strengthen the level of participation of developing countries in the international decision-making process, and a more transparent and open financial system, as well as adequate measures against illicit financial flows, such as tax fraud, tax evasion, illegal capital flight, money-laundering and the proceeds of corruption, and for improving tax transparency worldwide,

Stressing that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures at the global level that correspond to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

Stressing also the need for adequate financing of, technology transfer to and capacity-building in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, including to support their efforts to adapt to climate change,

Having listened to the peoples of the world, and recognizing their aspirations to justice, to equality of opportunity for all, to the enjoyment of their human rights, including the right to development, to live in peace and freedom and to equal participation without discrimination in economic, social, cultural, civil and political life,

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[476] Resolution 70/1.

Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 on institution-building of the Council and 5/2 on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council of 18 June 2007,[477] and stressing that all mandate holders shall discharge their duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

Emphasizing the importance of the 2030 Agenda for the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order,

Resolved to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;

2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full realization of all human rights for all;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Independent Expert of the Human Rights Council on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;[478]

4. *Calls upon* all Member States to fulfil their commitment expressed in Durban, South Africa, during the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to maximize the benefits of globalization through, inter alia, the strengthening and enhancement of international cooperation to increase equality of opportunities for trade, economic growth and sustainable development, global communications through the use of new technologies and increased intercultural exchange through the preservation and promotion of cultural diversity,[479] and reiterates that only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future based upon our common humanity and all its diversity can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable;

5. *Reaffirms* that democracy includes respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives, and re-emphasizes the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels;

6. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(a) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(b) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(c) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(d) The right of all peoples to peace;

(e) The right to an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(f) International solidarity, as a right of peoples and individuals;

(g) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principle of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(h) The right to equitable participation of all, without any discrimination, in domestic and global decision-making;

(i) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of the United Nations system;

(j) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communications order based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the

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[477] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[478] A/HRC/51/32.

[479] See A/CONF.189/12 and A/CONF.189/12/Corr.1, chap. I.

international flow of information, in particular correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(k) Respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(l) The right of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment and to enhanced international cooperation that responds effectively to the needs for assistance of national efforts to adapt to climate change, particularly in developing countries, and that promotes the fulfilment of international agreements in the field of mitigation;

(m) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in international economic, commercial and financial relations;

(n) The enjoyment by everyone of ownership of the common heritage of humankind in connection to the public right of access to culture;

(o) The shared responsibility of the nations of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development, including addressing pandemics and other health-related global challenges, as well as threats to international peace and security, which should be exercised multilaterally;

7. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

8. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all;

9. *Reaffirms*, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs;

10. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, social justice, equality and equity, human dignity, solidarity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

11. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

12. *Underlines* that attempts to overthrow legitimate Governments by force disrupt the democratic and constitutional order, the legitimate exercise of power and the full enjoyment of human rights, and reaffirms that every State has an inalienable right to choose its political, economic, social and cultural system, without interference in any form by other States;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working urgently for the establishment of a new international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations, in accordance with relevant previous General Assembly resolutions, programmes of action and major conferences and summits in the economic, social and related areas;

14. *Also reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights for all and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

15. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

16. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to support international cooperation and multilateral efforts, under the leadership of the United Nations system and in particular the World Health Organization, and to work with all relevant actors to mobilize a coordinated global response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its adverse social, economic and financial impact on all societies that contributes to a more democratic and equitable international order;

17. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order, as prescribed in the Charter of the United Nations, cannot be achieved only through the deregulation of trade, markets and financial services;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Independent Expert;

19. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Independent Expert in his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to consider responding favourably to the requests of the Independent Expert to visit their countries to enable him to fulfil his mandate more effectively;

20. *Requests* the Human Rights Council, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the special mechanisms extended by the Council and the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions towards its implementation;

21. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to build upon the issue of the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

23. *Requests* the Independent Expert to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and on the role of a democratic and equitable international order in facilitating the recovery of developing countries from the COVID-19 pandemic, including their equal access to safe, quality, efficacious, effective and affordable vaccines;

24. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its seventy-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 77/216

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 131 to 53, with 1 abstention,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[480]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho,

[480] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, India, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Brazil

77/216. Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 65/222 of 21 December 2010, 67/173 of 20 December 2012, 69/176 of 18 December 2014, 73/170 of 17 December 2018 and 75/177 of 16 December 2020 and Human Rights Council resolutions 20/15 of 5 July 2012,[481] 23/16 of 13 June 2013,[482] 27/17 of 25 September 2014,[483] 30/12 of 1 October 2015,[484] 35/4 of 22 June 2017[485] and 41/4 of 11 July 2019,[486] entitled "Promotion of the right to peace",

Recalling also its resolution 39/11 of 12 November 1984, entitled "Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace", and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[487]

Determined to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Underlining, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, its full and active support for the United Nations and for the enhancement of its role and effectiveness in strengthening international peace and security and justice and in promoting the solution of international problems, as well as the development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered,

Emphasizing its objective of promoting better relations among all States and contributing to setting up conditions in which their people can live in true and lasting peace, free from any threat to or attempt against their security,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its commitment to peace and security and justice and the continuing development of friendly relations and cooperation among States,

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[481] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and A/67/53/Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[482] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[483] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[484] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[485] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[486] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/74/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[487] Resolution 55/2.

Rejecting the use of violence in pursuit of political aims, and stressing that only peaceful political solutions can ensure a stable and democratic future for all people around the world,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring respect for the principles of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter and international law,

Reaffirming also that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Reaffirming further the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[488]

Recognizing that peace and development are mutually reinforcing, including in the prevention of armed conflict,

Affirming that human rights include social, economic and cultural rights and the right to peace, a healthy environment and development, and that development is in fact the realization of those rights,

Underlining the fact that the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental rights, is contrary to the Charter and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and cooperation,

Recalling that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[489] can be fully realized,

Convinced of the aim of creating conditions of stability and well-being, which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Convinced also that life without war is the primary international prerequisite for the material well-being, development and progress of countries and for the full implementation of the rights and fundamental human freedoms proclaimed by the United Nations,

Convinced further that international cooperation in the field of human rights contributes to creating an international environment of peace and stability,

1. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on the Right to Peace,[490] adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2016, and invites States, agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Declaration and to promote universal respect and understanding thereof;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the peoples of our planet have a sacred right to peace;

3. *Further reaffirms* that the preservation of the right of peoples to peace and the promotion of its implementation constitute a fundamental obligation of all States;

4. *Stresses* that peace is a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights for all;

5. *Also stresses* that the deep fault line that divides human society between the rich and the poor and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, peace and security and stability;

6. *Emphasizes* that the preservation and promotion of peace demand that the policies of States be directed towards the elimination of the threat of war, particularly nuclear war, the renunciation of the use or threat of use of force in international relations and the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Affirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and an international system based on respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter and the

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[488] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[489] Resolution 217 A (III).

[490] Resolution 71/189, annex.

promotion of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development and the right of peoples to self-determination;

8. *Urges* all States to respect and to put into practice the purposes and principles of the Charter in their relations with other States, irrespective of their political, economic or social system and of their size, geographical location or level of economic development;

9. *Reaffirms* the duty of all States, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, to use peaceful means to settle any dispute to which they are party and the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, as a vital requirement for the promotion and protection of all human rights of everyone and all peoples;

10. *Underlines* the vital importance of education for peace as a tool to foster the realization of the right of peoples to peace, and encourages States, the specialized agencies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

11. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

12. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question of the promotion of the right of peoples to peace at its seventy-ninth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 77/217

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[491]

77/217. The right to food

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Charter of the United Nations and its importance for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Reaffirming also previous resolutions and decisions on the right to food adopted within the framework of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[492] which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for her or his health and well-being, including food, the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,[493] the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[494] in particular Millennium Development Goal 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by 2015, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

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[491] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

[492] Resolution 217 A (III).

[493] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[494] Resolution 55/2.

Development,[495] in particular the Sustainable Development Goals on ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture and on ending poverty in all its forms everywhere,

Recognizing that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals can help to ensure the end of hunger in all its forms by 2030 and to achieve food security,

Recalling the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[496] in which the fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger is recognized,

Bearing in mind the importance of the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, the World Food Summit Plan of Action and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, adopted in Rome on 13 June 2002,[497]

Reaffirming the importance of the recommendations contained in the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,[498]

Acknowledging that the right to food has been recognized as the right of every individual, alone or in community with others, to have physical and economic access at all times to sufficient, adequate, nutritious food, in conformity with, inter alia, the culture, beliefs, traditions, dietary habits and preferences of individuals, that is produced and consumed sustainably, thereby preserving access to food for future generations,

Reaffirming the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security contained in the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, adopted in Rome on 16 November 2009,[499]

Recalling the proclamation by the General Assembly at its seventy-second session of 2019–2028 as the United Nations Decade of Family Farming and the close links between family farming, the promotion and conservation of historical, cultural and natural heritage, traditional customs and culture, halting the loss of biodiversity and the improvement of the living conditions of people living in rural areas,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that they must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Reaffirming also that a peaceful, stable and enabling political, social and economic environment, at both the national and the international levels, is the essential foundation that will enable States to give adequate priority to food security, improved nutrition and poverty eradication,

Reiterating, as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, the Declaration of the World Food Summit and the Rome Declaration on Nutrition,[500] that food should not be used as an instrument of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming in this regard the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter and that endanger food and nutrition security,

Expressing appreciation for the work of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Food Programme, aimed at ending hunger and achieving food security and improved nutrition,

Convinced that each State must adopt a strategy consistent with its resources and capacities to achieve its individual goals in implementing the recommendations contained in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action, as well as in the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action,[501] and, at the same time, cooperate regionally and internationally in order to organize collective solutions to

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[495] Resolution 70/1.

[496] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[497] A/57/499, annex.

[498] E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

[499] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

[500] World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annex I.

[501] Ibid., annex II.

global issues of food and nutrition security in a world of increasingly interlinked institutions, societies and economies where coordinated efforts and shared responsibilities are essential,

Recognizing that, despite the efforts made and the fact that some positive results have been achieved, the problems of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition have a global dimension, that there has not been sufficient progress in reducing hunger and malnutrition and that these problems are increasing dramatically in some regions in the absence of urgent, determined and concerted action,

Recognizing also the importance of traditional sustainable agricultural practices, including traditional seed supply systems, as well as access to credit and other financial services, markets, secure land tenure, health care, social services, education, training, knowledge and appropriate and affordable technologies, including efficient irrigation, the reuse of treated wastewater and water harvesting and storage for Indigenous Peoples and others living in rural areas,

Recognizing further the complex character of food insecurity and its likely recurrence due to a combination of several major factors, such as the effects of the global financial and economic crisis, environmental degradation, desertification and the adverse impacts of climate change, as well as poverty, natural disasters, armed conflicts, drought, volatility in commodity prices and the lack in many countries of the appropriate technology, investment and capacity-building necessary to confront its impact, particularly in developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, and the need for coherence and collaboration between international institutions at the global level,

Noting with great concern that millions of people are facing famine or the immediate risk of famine or are experiencing severe food insecurity in several regions of the world, and noting also that poverty, armed conflicts, drought and the volatility of commodity prices are among the factors causing or exacerbating famine and severe food insecurity and that additional efforts, including international support, to respond, prevent and prepare for increasing global food insecurity are urgently needed,

Noting the unprecedented surge in international food commodity prices which, according to the Food Price Index of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, reached their highest peak in March 2022 since its inception in 1990, in particular the rise in global prices of vegetable oil and grain, including wheat, further affecting people in vulnerable situations,

Recalling its resolution 76/264 of 23 May 2022, entitled "State of global food insecurity", in which the General Assembly welcomed the initiative by the Secretary-General to establish a Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance, with a Steering Committee chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, while also taking note of other relevant initiatives aimed at promoting food security and improved nutrition, including for those in vulnerable situations,

Noting the rise in fertilizer prices and the shortages caused by supply chain disruptions, affecting crop yields and threatening future agricultural productivity and production, especially of wheat, maize, millet, rice, sunflower oil and essential food,

Noting also the rise in energy and fuel prices, which is increasing food commodity prices, narrowing fiscal space at a time when the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has exacerbated pre-existing debt vulnerabilities and exposed fragilities in the global financial architecture, with many developing countries at high risk of or already in debt distress,

Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic is one of the greatest global challenges in the history of the United Nations, and noting with deep concern its impact on health and the loss of life, mental health and well-being, as well as the negative impact on global humanitarian needs, the enjoyment of human rights and across all spheres of society, including on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, and education, the exacerbation of poverty and hunger, disruption to economies, trade, societies and environments, and the exacerbation of economic and social inequalities within and among countries, which is reversing hard-won development gains and hampering progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda and all its Goals and targets,

Recognizing also that the poorest and those who may be vulnerable or in vulnerable situations are the hardest hit by the pandemic and that the impact of the crisis will reverse hard-won development gains and the fulfilment of the right to food for all, and hamper progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 2, which aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture,

Recognizing further that the COVID-19 global pandemic requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and multilateral cooperation,

Expressing its deep concern over the negative effects of armed conflicts on the enjoyment of the right to food,

Recognizing that armed conflict impacts on food security can be direct, such as displacement from land, livestock grazing areas and fishing grounds or destruction of food stocks and agricultural assets, or indirect, such as disruptions to food systems and markets, leading to increased food prices or decreased household purchasing power, or decreased access to supplies that are necessary for food preparation, including water and fuel,

Stressing the obligation of all States and parties to an armed conflict to protect civilians, in accordance with international humanitarian law, and calling upon Member States, the United Nations and other relevant organizations to take further steps to provide a coordinated emergency response to the food and nutrition needs of affected populations, while aiming to ensure that such steps are supportive of national strategies and programmes aimed at improving food security and nutrition,

Reaffirming that starvation of civilians as a method of combat is prohibited under international humanitarian law and that it is therefore prohibited to attack, destroy, remove or render useless, for that purpose, objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population, such as foodstuffs, agricultural areas for the production of foodstuffs, crops, livestock, drinking water installations and supplies and irrigation works,

Resolved to act to ensure that the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and the human rights perspective are taken into account at the national, regional and international levels in measures to address the realization of the right to food,

Stressing the possible benefits of international trade to improve food and nutrition availability,

Stressing also that improving access to productive resources and investment in rural development is essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, through, inter alia, the promotion of investments in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts and tackle water scarcity, as well as in programmes, practices and policies to scale up sustainable agroecological practices,

Recognizing the importance of sustainable food systems that are fit to meet environmental, economic and social challenges, in order to guarantee food security and nutrition for all,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of natural disasters, diseases and pest infestations, as well as the negative impact of climate change, and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in substantial loss of life and livelihood and threatened agricultural production and food and nutrition security, in particular in developing countries,

Concerned that the adverse impacts of climate change and natural disasters are harming agricultural productivity, food production and cropping patterns, thus contributing to food availability shortfalls, and that such impacts are expected to increase with future climate change,

Emphasizing that a multisectoral approach that integrates nutrition across all sectors, including agriculture, health, water and sanitation, social protection and education, as well as a gender perspective, is critical to achieving global food security and improved nutrition and the realization of the right to food,

Recalling the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security[502] by the Committee on World Food Security at its thirty-eighth session, held on 11 May 2012, and by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its 144th session,

Recalling also the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,[503] which were endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security at its forty-first session, held from 13 to 18 October 2014,

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[502] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

[503] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2015/20, appendix D.

Stressing the importance of the Second International Conference on Nutrition, hosted by the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014, and of its outcome documents, the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action,

Stressing also the need to increase official development assistance devoted to sustainable agriculture and nutrition,

Recognizing that small and medium-sized farmers in developing countries need to receive technical, technology transfer and capacity-building support,

Recognizing also the importance of the protection and preservation of agrobiodiversity in guaranteeing food security and nutrition and the right to food for all,

Noting the cultural values of dietary and eating habits in different cultures, and recognizing that food plays an important role in defining the identity of individuals and communities and is a cultural component that describes and gives value to a territory and its inhabitants,

Recognizing the role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the key United Nations agency for rural and agricultural development and its work in supporting the efforts of Member States to achieve the full realization of the right to food, including through its provision of technical assistance to developing countries in support of the implementation of national priority frameworks,

Recognizing also the role of the Committee on World Food Security as an inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for a broad range of committed stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all human beings,

Taking note with appreciation of the United Nations Food Systems Summit, convened by the Secretary-General and held on 23 and 24 September 2021, and of the Nutrition for Growth Summit, held in Tokyo on 7 and 8 December 2021,

Acknowledging the contribution of parliamentarians nationally and regionally to the reduction of hunger and malnutrition and ultimately to the realization of the right to food, and in this regard recognizing the convening of the first Global Parliamentary Summit against Hunger and Malnutrition, held in Madrid on 29 and 30 October 2018,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want", and recalling the commitment therein to work together to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection and thereby to benefit all, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

Recalling also the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030[504] and its guiding principles, which, inter alia, recognize the importance of promoting regular disaster preparedness and response and recovery exercises, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs, as well as of fostering collaboration across global and regional mechanisms and institutions for the implementation and coherence of instruments and tools relevant to disaster risk reduction, such as for climate change adaptation, biodiversity, sustainable development, poverty eradication, environment, agriculture, health, food and nutrition and others, as appropriate,

Recalling further the proclamation at its seventieth session of 2016–2025 as the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition, and stressing the opportunity the Decade represents to bring together initiatives and efforts to eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition,

Acknowledging the work done by the High-level Task Force on Global Food and Nutrition Security established by the Secretary-General, and supporting the Secretary-General in his continuing efforts in this regard, including continued engagement with Member States and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food,

[504] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

1. *Reaffirms* that hunger constitutes an outrage and a violation of human dignity and therefore requires the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels for its elimination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient, nutritious and sustainably produced food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities;

3. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that the effects created by the world food crisis still continue to have serious consequences for the poorest and most vulnerable people, particularly in developing countries, which have been further aggravated by the impacts of the world financial and economic crisis, and at the particular effects of the crisis on many net food-importing countries, especially the least developed countries;

4. *Expresses particular concern* at the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the fulfilment of all human rights for all, including the right to food, underlines that the pandemic is exacerbating existing high levels of acute food insecurity, and calls upon Member States and other relevant stakeholders to consider the fulfilment of the right to food as part of the response to and recovery from the pandemic by, inter alia, keeping food and agriculture supply chains functioning, ensuring the continued trade in and movement of food and livestock, products and inputs essential for agricultural and food production to markets, minimizing food loss and waste, supporting workers and farmers, including women farmers, in agriculture and food supply chains to continue their essential work, including cross-border, in a safe manner, mobilizing and allocating adequate resources and enhancing institutional and training capacities for an accelerated implementation of sustainable agriculture and food systems, providing continued access to adequate, safe, affordable and nutritious food, and providing adequate social safety nets and assistance to minimize the negative effects of loss of livelihoods and increasing food prices on food insecurity and malnutrition;

5. *Expresses its deep concern* that, according to the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations entitled *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022: Repurposing food and agricultural policies to make healthy diets more affordable*, the number of hungry people in the world is growing, the vast majority of hungry people live in developing countries and over 2.3 billion people in the world experience moderate or severe food insecurity;

6. *Considers it alarming* that, as estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in 2021, the number of people who did not have access to adequate food rose by 112 million, to 3.1 billion, and that between 702 million and 828 million people faced hunger in 2021;

7. *Expresses its deep concern* that, while women contribute more than 50 per cent of the food produced worldwide, they also account for 70 per cent of the world's hungry, that women and girls are disproportionately affected by hunger, food insecurity and poverty, in part as a result of gender inequality and discrimination, that in many countries girls are twice as likely as boys to die from malnutrition and preventable childhood diseases, and that it is estimated that almost twice as many women as men suffer from malnutrition;

8. *Encourages* all States to mainstream a gender perspective in food security programmes and to take action to address de jure and de facto gender inequality and discrimination against women, in particular when they contribute to the malnutrition of women and girls, including measures to ensure the full and equal realization of the right to food and that women have equal access to resources, including income, land and water and their ownership and agricultural inputs, as well as full and equal access to health care, education, science and technology, to enable them to feed themselves and their families, and in this regard stresses the need to empower women and strengthen their role in decision-making;

9. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food to continue to mainstream a gender perspective in the fulfilment of his mandate, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and all other United Nations bodies and mechanisms addressing the right to food and food insecurity and malnutrition to continue to integrate a gender perspective into their relevant policies, programmes and activities;

10. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure that programmes delivering safe and nutritious food are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

11. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility of States is to promote and protect the right to food and that the international community should provide, through a coordinated response and upon request, international cooperation in support of national and regional efforts by providing the assistance necessary to increase food production and access

to food, including through agricultural development assistance, the transfer of technology, food crop rehabilitation assistance and food aid, ensuring food security, with special attention to the specific needs of women and girls, and promoting innovation, support for agricultural training and the development of adapted technologies, research on rural advisory services and support for access to financing services, and ensure support for the establishment of secure land tenure systems;

12. *Calls upon* all States and, if appropriate, relevant international organizations to take measures and support programmes that are aimed at combating undernutrition in mothers, in particular during pregnancy and breastfeeding, and in children, and the irreversible effects of chronic undernutrition in early childhood, in particular from birth to the age of 2 years;

13. *Also calls upon* all States and, where appropriate, relevant international organizations to implement policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity, as a result of malnutrition, of children under 5 years of age, and in this regard urges States to disseminate the technical guidance prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in collaboration with the World Health Organization,[505] and to apply it, as appropriate, in the design, implementation, evaluation and monitoring of laws, policies, programmes, budgets and mechanisms for remedy and redress aimed at eliminating preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age;

14. *Encourages* all States to take steps, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to food, including steps to promote the conditions for everyone to be free from hunger and, as soon as possible, to enjoy fully the right to food, and to create and adopt national plans to combat hunger;

15. *Recognizes* the advances made through South-South cooperation in developing countries and regions in connection with food security and the development of agricultural production for the full realization of the right to food;

16. *Stresses* that improving access to productive resources and responsible public investment in rural development, taking into consideration the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems, as endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security, is essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, including through the promotion of investment, including private investment, in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts and to tackle water scarcity;

17. *Recognizes* the critical contribution made by the fisheries sector to the realization of the right to food and to food security and the contribution of small-scale fishers to the local food security of coastal communities;

18. *Also recognizes* that 70 per cent of hungry people live in rural areas, where nearly half a billion family farmers are located, and that these people are especially vulnerable to food insecurity, given the increasing cost of inputs and the fall in farm incomes; that access to land, water, seeds and other natural resources is an increasing challenge for poor producers; that sustainable and gender-sensitive agricultural policies are important tools for promoting land and agrarian reform, rural credit and insurance, technical assistance and other associated measures to achieve food security and rural development; and that support by States for small farmers, fishing communities and local enterprises, including through the facilitation of access for their products to national and international markets and empowerment of small producers, particularly women, in value chains, is a key element for food security and the provision of the right to food;

19. *Stresses* the importance of fighting hunger in rural areas, including through national efforts supported by international partnerships to stop desertification and land degradation and through investments and public policies that are specifically appropriate to the risk of drylands, and in this regard calls for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;[506]

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[505] A/HRC/27/31; see also Human Rights Council resolution 33/11 (see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II).

[506] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

20. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to favourably consider becoming parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[507] and to consider becoming parties to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture[508] as a matter of priority;

21. *Recognizes* the important role of Indigenous Peoples and their traditional knowledge and seed supply systems, as well as the important role of new technologies, in the conservation of biodiversity and in aiming to ensure food security and improved nutrition;

22. *Recalls* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[509] acknowledges that many Indigenous organizations and representatives of Indigenous Peoples have expressed in different forums their deep concerns over the obstacles and challenges they face in achieving the full enjoyment of the right to food, and calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among Indigenous Peoples and the continuous discrimination against them;

23. *Also recalls* the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held on 22 and 23 September 2014,[510] and the commitment to developing, in conjunction with the Indigenous Peoples concerned and where appropriate, policies, programmes and resources to support Indigenous Peoples' occupations, traditional subsistence activities, economies, livelihoods, food security and nutrition;

24. *Notes* the need to further examine various concepts, such as "food sovereignty", and their relation to food security and the right to food, bearing in mind the need to avoid any negative impact on the enjoyment of the right to food for all people at all times;

25. *Requests* all States and private actors, as well as international organizations, within their respective mandates, to take fully into account the need to promote the effective realization of the right to food for all;

26. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen national commitment, as well as international assistance, upon the request of and in cooperation with the affected countries, towards the full realization and protection of the right to food, and in particular to develop national protection mechanisms for people forced to leave their homes and land because of hunger or humanitarian emergencies affecting their enjoyment of the right to food;

27. *Takes note with appreciation* of the growing movement, in different regions of the world, towards the adoption of framework laws, national strategies and measures in support of the full realization of the right to food for all;

28. *Stresses* the need to make efforts to mobilize and optimize the allocation and utilization of technical and financial resources from all sources, including external debt relief for developing countries, and to reinforce national actions to implement sustainable food security policies;

29. *Calls for* a successful, development-oriented outcome of the trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization, in particular on the remaining issues of the Doha Development Round, as a contribution to the creation of international conditions permitting the full realization of the right to food;

30. *Stresses* that all States should make all efforts to ensure that their international policies of a political and economic nature, including international trade agreements, do not have a negative impact on the right to food in other countries;

31. *Recalls* the importance of the New York Declaration on Action against Hunger and Poverty, and recommends the continuation of efforts aimed at identifying additional sources of financing for the fight against hunger and poverty, as well as non-communicable diseases;

32. *Recognizes* that the promises made at the World Food Summit in 1996 to halve the number of persons who are undernourished are not being fulfilled, while recognizing the efforts of Member States in this regard, and once again invites all international financial and development institutions, as well as the relevant United Nations

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[507] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[508] Ibid., vol. 2400, No. 43345.

[509] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[510] Resolution 69/2.

agencies and funds, to give priority to and provide the funding necessary to realize the right to food, as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, and to achieve the aims of Goal 2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other food and nutrition-related targets;

33. *Reaffirms* that integrating food and nutritional support, with the goal that all people at all times will have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, is part of a comprehensive effort to improve public health, alongside the response to the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other communicable diseases;

34. *Urges* States to give priority in their development strategies and expenditures to the realization of the right to food;

35. *Stresses* the importance of international cooperation and development assistance as an effective contribution to the sustainable expansion and improvement of agriculture and, in particular, its environmental sustainability, food production, breeding projects on diversity of crops and livestock and institutional innovations such as community seed banks, farmer field schools and seed fairs, and to the provision of humanitarian food assistance in activities related to emergency situations for the realization of the right to food and the achievement of sustainable food security, while recognizing that each country has the primary responsibility for ensuring the implementation of national programmes and strategies in this regard;

36. *Calls upon* Member States and relevant stakeholders to strengthen international cooperation, as well as their support for multilateral efforts and for the central role of the United Nations system, in order to mobilize a coordinated global response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its adverse social, economic and financial impact on all societies, including on the right to food, that contributes to the full realization of this right for all and leaves no one behind;

37. *Stresses* that States parties to the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights should consider implementing that agreement in a manner that is supportive of food security;

38. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to support national efforts aimed at responding rapidly to the food crises currently occurring across different regions, and expresses its deep concern that funding shortfalls are forcing the World Food Programme to cut operations across different regions;

39. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations, humanitarian and development organizations and other relevant actors to urgently and effectively respond to, prevent and prepare for rising global food insecurity affecting millions of people, especially those who are facing famine or the immediate risk of famine, including by enhancing humanitarian and development cooperation and providing urgent funding to respond to the needs of the affected population, and calls upon Member States and parties to armed conflicts to respect international humanitarian law and ensure safe and unhindered humanitarian access;

40. *Calls upon* States to heed the urgent United Nations humanitarian appeal to assist countries facing drought, starvation and famine with emergency aid and urgent funding;

41. *Invites* all relevant international organizations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to continue to promote policies and projects that have a positive impact on the right to food, to ensure that partners respect the right to food in the implementation of common projects, to support strategies of Member States aimed at the fulfilment of the right to food and to avoid any actions that could have a negative impact on its realization;

42. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur,[511] which is focused on emerging issues concerning the realization of the right to food, in particular in the context of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on food security and nutrition;

43. *Recognizes* the importance of giving due consideration to the adverse impacts of climate change and to the full realization of the right to food, recalls the Paris Agreement, adopted at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Paris from

[511] A/77/177.

30 November to 13 December 2015,[512] and also recalls the holding of the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties in Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016;

44. *Also recognizes* the impacts of climate change and of the El Niño phenomenon on agricultural production and food security around the world and the importance of designing and implementing actions to reduce its effects, in particular on vulnerable populations, such as rural women, bearing in mind the role that they play in supporting their households and communities in achieving food and nutrition security, generating income and improving rural livelihoods and overall well-being;

45. *Reiterates its support* for the realization of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and requests the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for its effective fulfilment;

46. *Welcomes* the work already done by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting the right to adequate food, in particular its general comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food (article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights),[513] in which the Committee affirmed, inter alia, that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person, indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights and inseparable from social justice, requiring the adoption of appropriate economic, environmental and social policies, at both the national and the international levels, oriented to the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights for all;

47. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work done by the Committee on World Food Security in order to contribute to achieving and guaranteeing global food security;

48. *Recalls* general comment No. 15 (2002) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the right to water (articles 11 and 12 of the Covenant),[514] in which the Committee noted, inter alia, the importance of ensuring sustainable access to water resources for human consumption and agriculture in realization of the right to adequate food;

49. *Reaffirms* that the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004, represent a useful tool to promote the realization of the right to food for all, contribute to the achievement of food security and thus provide an additional instrument in the attainment of internationally agreed development goals and to support national Governments in the implementation of food security and nutrition policies, programmes and legal frameworks;

50. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries to enable him to fulfil his mandate more effectively;

51. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue his work, including by examining the emerging issues with regard to the realization of the right to food that are within his mandate, in particular in the context of the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic;

52. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies, civil society actors and non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate through, inter alia, the submission of comments and suggestions on ways and means of realizing the right to food;

53. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its seventy-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

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[512] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[513] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and E/2000/22/Corr.1), annex V.

[514] Ibid., *2003, Supplement No. 2* (E/2003/22), annex IV.

RESOLUTION 77/218

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 133 to none, with 44 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[515]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Against: None

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, Belarus, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

77/218. Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[516] which guarantees the right to life, liberty and security of person, the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[517] and other relevant human rights conventions,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, as set out in Council resolution 44/5 of 16 July 2020,[518]

Welcoming the universal ratification of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[519] which, alongside international human rights law, provide important legal frameworks of accountability in relation to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions during armed conflict,

Recalling all its resolutions on the subject of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions as well as the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the subject, and emphasizing the importance of their full and effective implementation,

Recognizing the positive role that governments, regional human rights systems, national human rights institutions, civil society and human rights defenders play in the protection against arbitrary deprivation of life,

Acknowledging the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[520] and its implementation for the promotion and protection of the enjoyment by all persons of human rights, gender equality and the empowerment

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[515] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay.

[516] Resolution 217 A (III).

[517] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[518] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/75/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[519] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[520] Resolution 70/1.

of all women and girls, access to justice for all and democracy, including effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

Recognizing the work of the treaty bodies and special procedure mandate holders that have addressed human rights issues related to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions within the framework of their respective mandates,

Noting with deep concern that impunity continues to be a major cause of the perpetuation of violations of human rights, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, especially with regard to the gender-related killing of women and girls, also known as femicide,

Noting the importance of keeping accurate records to enable the identification of dead bodies or human remains and the prompt, effective, exhaustive, thorough, independent, impartial and transparent investigation of deaths of persons, which may have been unlawful, including determining their identity,

Noting also that enforced disappearances can end in extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, recalling the importance in this regard of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[521] and calling upon all States which have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

Acknowledging that international human rights law and international humanitarian law are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Noting with alarm the growing number of civilians and persons hors de combat killed in situations of armed conflict and internal strife and strongly condemning such executions when they take place, and that women and girls and persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by conflict, as recognized in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security, Council resolution 2475 (2019) of 20 June 2019 on the protection of persons with disabilities in conflict and other resolutions on the matter,

Noting with deep concern the continuing instances of the arbitrary deprivation of life, resulting from, inter alia, the imposition and implementation of capital punishment when carried out in a manner that violates international law,

Recalling the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)[522] and the adoption of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[523]

Deeply concerned about acts that can amount to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions committed against persons exercising their rights to peaceful assembly, freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression and against human rights defenders in all regions of the world,

Deeply concerned also about extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary killings, including killings of children, committed by non-State actors, including terrorist groups and criminal organizations, which may amount to abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law,

Acknowledging that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions may under certain circumstances amount to genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, as defined in international law, including in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[524] and recalling in this regard that each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from such crimes, as set out by the General Assembly in its resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005 and 63/308 of 14 September 2009,

Convinced of the need for effective action to address the root causes of, prevent, combat and eliminate the abhorrent practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, which represent flagrant violations of international human rights law, particularly the right to life, as well as of international humanitarian law,

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[521] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2716, No. 48088.

[522] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[523] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[524] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

Recognizing the potential role of new, accessible technologies in widening the space for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to life, and in helping to monitor and to prevent persecution and discrimination and therefore contribute to the prevention of extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions and accountability,

Underlining the need to ensure that the development and use of new technologies, including artificial intelligence, contribute to the promotion and protection of and respect for human rights, including the right to life, and that their use does not result in discriminatory outcomes or constitute a violation of human rights,

1. *Reiterates its strong condemnation* of all the extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that continue to occur throughout the world;

2. *Demands* that all States ensure that the practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions is brought to an end and that they take effective action to prevent, combat and eliminate the phenomenon in all its forms and manifestations;

3. *Reiterates* that all States:

(a) Must conduct prompt, effective, exhaustive, thorough, independent, impartial and transparent investigations, exercising due diligence, in line with international standards and forensic best practices, and in this regard takes note of the Revised United Nations Manual on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extralegal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions,[525] with reference to as much forensic expertise as necessary, into all suspected cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, identify and bring to justice those responsible, while ensuring the right of every person to a fair hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law, grant adequate compensation within a reasonable time to the victims or their families and adopt all measures, including legal and judicial measures, necessary to put an end to impunity;

(b) Conduct such investigations, bearing in mind the need for gender equality in access to justice, particularly with regard to the gender-related killing of women and girls, also known as femicide, and the report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions submitted to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-fifth session[526] regarding a gender-sensitive approach to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary killings, which points to the links between the arbitrary deprivation of life and systemic discrimination, such as gender-based and racial discrimination, and the greater rates of homicide among Indigenous women and girls and women and girls with disabilities, and extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions of refugees and migrants and humanitarian workers, and prevent the further occurrence of such executions, as recommended in the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extralegal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions,[527] fully consistent with their obligations under international law;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to actively support and pay greater attention to the work of national-level commissions of inquiry into extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, with a view to ensuring the effective contribution of these commissions to accountability and to combating impunity;

5. *Calls upon* all States, in order to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to comply with their obligations under the relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, and also calls upon States which retain the death penalty to pay particular regard to the provisions contained in articles 6, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, articles 37 and 40 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[528] and articles 12, 13 and 14 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[529] bearing in mind the safeguards and guarantees set out in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and 1989/64 of 24 May 1989 and taking into account the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur in reports to the Council and the General Assembly, including the report submitted to the Assembly at its sixty-seventh session,[530] regarding the

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[525] *The Minnesota Protocol on the Investigation of Potentially Unlawful Death* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.17.XIV.3).

[526] A/HRC/35/23.

[527] Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/65, annex.

[528] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[529] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[530] A/67/275.

need to respect all safeguards and restrictions, including limitation to the most serious crimes, stringent respect of due process and fair trial safeguards and the right to seek pardon or commutation of sentence;

6. *Emphasizes* that to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions States should take necessary steps to adopt such laws or other measures as may be necessary to give effect to the right to life in accordance with international law and that everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law;

7. *Urges* all States:

(a) To take all measures required by international human rights law and international humanitarian law to prevent loss of life, in particular that of children, during detention, arrest, public demonstrations, internal and communal violence, civil unrest, public emergencies or armed conflicts and to ensure that the police, law enforcement agents, armed forces and other agents acting on behalf of or with the consent or acquiescence of the State, including private security providers, act with restraint and in conformity with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including the principles of proportionality and necessity, and in this regard to ensure that police and law enforcement officials are guided by the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials[531] and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials;[532]

(b) To ensure the effective protection of the right to life of all persons, to conduct, when required by obligations under international law, prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations into all killings, including those targeted at specific groups of persons, such as racially motivated violence leading to the death of the victim, killings of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities or because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, killings of persons affected by terrorism or hostage-taking or living under foreign occupation, killings of refugees, internally displaced persons, migrants, street children or members of Indigenous communities, killings of persons for reasons related to their activities as human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists or demonstrators, killings committed in the name of passion or in the name of honour and killings committed for discriminatory reasons on any basis, to bring those responsible to justice before a competent, independent and impartial judiciary at the national or, where appropriate, international level and to ensure that such killings, including those committed by security forces, police and law enforcement agents, paramilitary groups or private forces, are neither condoned nor sanctioned by State officials or personnel;

8. *Affirms* the obligation of States, in order to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to protect the lives of all persons deprived of their liberty in all circumstances and to investigate, respond to and ensure combat against impunity for deaths in custody, including in institutions;

9. *Encourages* States, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the United Nations and of regional human rights systems, to review, where necessary, their domestic laws and practices with regard to the use of force in law enforcement in order to ensure that these laws and practices are in conformity with their international obligations and commitments;

10. *Emphasizes* that, to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, States should take effective measures to ensure that the use of force by law enforcement officials is in conformity with international obligations and the principles of legality, precaution, necessity, proportionality and accountability, as well as their national legislation;

11. *Reaffirms* that the same human rights that people have offline must also be protected online, in order to help to prevent extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

12. *Encourages* States, in order to support the protection of the right to life, to make appropriate protective equipment and less-lethal weapons available to their officials exercising law enforcement duties, while pursuing efforts to regulate and establish protocols for the training and use of less-lethal weapons and in this regard strengthening international cooperation, bearing in mind that even less-lethal weapons can result in risk to life or serious injury;

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[531] Resolution 34/169, annex.

[532] See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

13. *Also encourages* States to accelerate the work on fulfilling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, bearing in mind the importance of the full enjoyment of human rights and access to justice for all and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, as well as the systematic mainstreaming and integration of a gender perspective;

14. *Urges* all States to ensure that all persons deprived of their liberty are treated humanely and with full respect for international law and that their treatment, including judicial guarantees and conditions, conforms to, as appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), as well as the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) and, where applicable, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977,[533] as well as other pertinent international instruments;

15. *Welcomes*:

(a) The International Criminal Court as an important contribution to ending impunity concerning extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and, noting the growing awareness of the Court worldwide, as highlighted during the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the Court, calls upon those States that are under an obligation to cooperate with the Court to provide such cooperation and assistance in the future, in particular with regard to arrest and surrender, the provision of evidence, the protection and relocation of victims and witnesses and the enforcement of sentences;

(b) The fact that 123 States have ratified or acceded to and 137 States have signed the Rome Statute, and calls upon all those States that have not ratified or acceded to the Rome Statute and the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court[534] to give serious consideration to doing so;

16. *Acknowledges* the importance of ensuring the protection of witnesses for the prosecution of those suspected of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, urges States to intensify efforts to establish and implement effective witness protection programmes or other measures, and in this regard encourages the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to develop practical tools, including gender-responsive tools, designed to encourage and facilitate greater attention to the protection of witnesses;

17. *Encourages* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to organize training programmes and capacity-building and to support projects with a view to training or educating military forces, law enforcement officers, government officials and forensic specialists, as well as private personnel acting on behalf of the State, in international humanitarian and human rights law connected with their work, to include a gender, disability and child rights perspective, as well as information on the role of journalists and media workers, in such training and to require, where appropriate, that all private security providers have vetting and training procedures in place, including mandatory appropriate weapons training, that include human rights norms and principles, and appeals to the international community and requests the Office of the High Commissioner to support endeavours to that end;

18. *Urges* States to promote and apply an approach that respects human rights obligations and is gender-responsive in the design, development and use of new technologies on the basis of a multi-stakeholder approach and to regulate new and existing technologies in a manner that ensures that the development and use of such technologies promote, protect and respect human rights, including the right to life, and makes sure that new technologies are not discriminatory and are not used to violate human rights;

19. *Recognizes* the need for international and multi-stakeholder cooperation in building capacity and ensuring technical assistance to address technological change and to bridge digital divides in order for all States, especially developing countries and the least developed countries, to benefit from opportunities and to address extrajudicial, arbitrary or summary executions properly;

20. *Strongly urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of national and international humanitarian personnel;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close collaboration with the High Commissioner and in conformity with the mandate of the High Commissioner, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/141

[533] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[534] Ibid., vol. 2271, No. 40446.

of 20 December 1993, to ensure that personnel specialized in international humanitarian and human rights law, including in provisions related to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, form part of United Nations missions, where appropriate, in order to deal with serious violations of human rights, such as extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

22. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur to the General Assembly[535] and the Human Rights Council, and invites States to take due consideration of the recommendations contained therein;

23. *Commends* the important role that the Special Rapporteur plays in the elimination and prevention of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue, within the mandate, to collect information, including data disaggregated by sex, age and disability, from all concerned, to respond effectively to reliable information that comes before the Special Rapporteur, to follow up on communications and country visits and to seek the views and comments of Governments and to reflect them, as appropriate, for example, in reports, as well as to identify relevant issues, provide advice and recommendations and share experiences and best practices to prevent extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions;

24. *Acknowledges* the important role of the Special Rapporteur in identifying cases where extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions could amount to genocide and crimes against humanity or war crimes, and urges the Special Rapporteur to collaborate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and, as appropriate, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide in addressing situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that are of particularly serious concern or in which early action might prevent further deterioration;

25. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the Special Rapporteur and other United Nations mechanisms and procedures in the field of human rights, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue efforts in that regard;

26. *Urges* all States, in particular those that have not done so, to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur so that the mandate can be carried out effectively, including by favourably and rapidly responding to requests for visits, mindful that country visits are one of the essential tools for the fulfilment of the mandate, and by responding in a timely manner to communications and other requests transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur;

27. *Expresses its appreciation* to those States that have received the Special Rapporteur, asks them to examine the Special Rapporteur's recommendations carefully, invites them to inform the Special Rapporteur of the actions taken on those recommendations, and urges other States to cooperate in a similar way;

28. *Once again requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use his best endeavours in cases where the minimum standards of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 9, 14, 15 and 16 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights appear not to have been respected;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with adequate human, financial and material resources to enable the mandate to be carried out effectively, including through country visits;

30. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions, a report on the situation worldwide with regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and recommendations for more effective action to combat this phenomenon;

31. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-ninth session.

[535] See A/76/264 and A/77/270.

RESOLUTION 77/219

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[536]

77/219. Human rights in the administration of justice

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[537] and the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols thereto,[538] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[539] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Optional Protocol thereto,[540] the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[541] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[542] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[543] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[544] as well as all other relevant international treaties,

Calling attention to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

Recalling all the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the subject of human rights in the administration of justice, including General Assembly resolution 75/185 of 16 December 2020 and Human Rights Council resolutions 37/22 of 23 March 2018[545] and 42/11 of 26 September 2019,[546]

Recalling also its resolution 74/306 of 11 September 2020, recognizing the primary responsibility of Governments to adopt and implement responses to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic that are specific to their national context, and that emergency measures, policies and strategies put in place by countries to address and mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 must be targeted, necessary, transparent, non-discriminatory, time-bound, proportionate and in accordance with their obligations under applicable international human rights law, and reaffirming the obligation of States in this regard, in accordance with article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities,[547]

Reaffirming the importance of international standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including in relation to drug-related crimes, as recognized by Member States in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem",[548]

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[536] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and Uruguay.

[537] Resolution 217 A (III).

[538] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex; and United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1642, No. 14668.

[539] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[540] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 1465 and 2375, No. 24841.

[541] Ibid., vol. 2716, No. 48088.

[542] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[543] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[544] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[545] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/73/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[546] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/74/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[547] A/77/213.

[548] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

Welcoming the work of all special procedures of the Human Rights Council that address human rights in the administration of justice in the discharge of their mandates,

Taking note of the work of the human rights treaty body mechanisms on human rights in the administration of justice, inter alia, of general comments No. 21 (1992) on humane treatment of persons deprived of their liberty,[549] No. 32 (2007) on the right to equality before courts and tribunals and to a fair trial[550] and No. 35 (2014) on liberty and security of person,[551] adopted by the Human Rights Committee, general comments No. 13 (2011) on the right of the child to freedom from all forms of violence[552] and No. 24 (2019) on children's rights in the child justice system,[553] adopted by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, general recommendation No. 31 (2005) on the prevention of racial discrimination in the administration and functioning of the criminal justice system,[554] adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, general recommendation No. 33 (2015) on women's access to justice,[555] adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and general comments No. 1 (2014) on equal recognition before the law,[556] No. 6 (2018) on equality and non-discrimination[557] and No. 7 (2018) on the participation of persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities, through their representative organizations, in the implementation and monitoring of the Convention,[558] adopted by the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

Noting with appreciation the important work in the field of the administration of justice of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Department of Peace Operations of the Secretariat and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), as well as the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,

Taking note with appreciation of the International Principles and Guidelines on Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities, which are the product of joint work by the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility,

Recalling the adoption of the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[559] adopted at the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021,

Encouraging continued regional and cross-regional efforts, the sharing of best practices and the provision of technical assistance in the field of child justice, and noting in this regard the panel discussion on "Upholding the human rights of prisoners, including women prisoners and offenders: enhancing technical cooperation and capacity-building in the implementation of the Nelson Mandela Rules and the Bangkok Rules", held during the forty-fourth session of the Human Rights Council,

Recognizing the needs of women and girls in detention or imprisonment, including their health-care needs, and noting the importance of gender- and age-sensitive justice systems and a victim- and survivor-centred approach in addressing all forms of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence,

Convinced that the independence and impartiality of the judiciary and the integrity of the judicial system, as well as an independent legal profession, are essential prerequisites for the protection of human rights, the rule of law,

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[549] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/47/40), annex VI.B.

[550] Ibid., *Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/62/40), vol. I, annex VI.

[551] CCPR/C/GC/35.

[552] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/67/41), annex V.

[553] CRC/C/GC/24.

[554] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/60/18), chap. IX.

[555] CEDAW/C/GC/33.

[556] CRPD/C/GC/1 and CRPD/C/GC/1/Corr.1.

[557] CRPD/C/GC/6.

[558] CRPD/C/GC/7.

[559] Resolution 76/181, annex.

good governance and democracy and for ensuring that there is no discrimination in the administration of justice and should therefore be respected in all circumstances,

Recalling that every State should provide an effective framework of remedies to redress human rights grievances or violations and to challenge the lawfulness of detention before a court,

Emphasizing that the equal right to access to justice for all, which could include access to legal aid, forms an important basis for strengthening the rule of law through the administration of justice,

Underlining the importance of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[560] and recognizing the role of the relevant Sustainable Development Goals for eliminating discrimination in the administration of justice,

Mindful of the importance of ensuring respect for the rule of law and human rights in the administration of justice as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity,

Recognizing the rapid advances in the design, development and use of digital technologies in various aspects of criminal justice systems, including the pretrial stage, during trials as well as after convictions,

Encouraging law enforcement, criminal justice and other relevant institutions to effectively and appropriately employ new and advanced technologies as tools against crime with adequate and effective safeguards to prevent the misuse and abuse of these technologies in this regard,

Recognizing the importance of the principle that, except for those lawful limitations that are demonstrably necessitated by the fact of incarceration, persons deprived of their liberty shall retain their non-derogable human rights and all other human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Concerned about the negative impact of overincarceration and overcrowding on the enjoyment of human rights, and acknowledging that overincarceration constitutes one of the major underlying causes of overcrowding,

Emphasizing that the penitentiary system should provide the possibility of reform and social rehabilitation of the offender in all appropriate cases, and that punishment should be dealt with in the larger framework of a criminal justice system that provides the possibility of reinsertion and reintegration of the offender into society,

Recalling that the social rehabilitation and reintegration of persons deprived of their liberty shall be among the essential aims of the criminal justice system, ensuring, as far as possible, that offenders are able to lead a law-abiding and self-supporting life upon their return to society,

Underlining that, where persons are in vulnerable situations or marginalized, prejudice and discrimination in the administration of justice may result in their overincarceration and overrepresentation throughout the criminal justice system, and recognizing the need for States to take measures, within the justice system, particularly the criminal justice system, to prevent discrimination, inter alia, against persons with disabilities and persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and to increase their effective participation within the system,

Aware of the need for special vigilance with regard to the specific situation of children, juveniles, women, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and people who are in vulnerable situations in the administration of justice, in particular while they are deprived of their liberty, and their risk of facing various forms of violence, abuse, injustice and humiliation,

Reaffirming that children who are victims and witnesses of crime and violence are particularly vulnerable and require special protection, assistance and support appropriate to their age, level of maturity and needs, in order to prevent further hardship and trauma that may result from their participation in the criminal justice process,

Recognizing the specific situation and needs of children formerly associated with armed forces or armed groups when accused of crimes under international law allegedly committed while they were children associated with armed forces or armed groups,

[560] Resolution 70/1.

Reaffirming that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration in all actions concerning the child in the administration of justice, including in relation to pretrial measures, as well as being an important consideration in all matters concerning the child related to the sentencing of the parents, or, where applicable, legal guardians or primary caregivers,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the most recent report of the Secretary-General on human rights in the administration of justice, including on the situation of women and girls;[561]

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on violence, death and serious injury in situations of deprivation of liberty,[562] as well as previous reports on human rights in the administration of justice submitted to the Human Rights Council;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective implementation of all United Nations standards on human rights in the administration of justice, and invites States to assess their national legislation and practice against those standards;

4. *Invites* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the relevant United Nations entities and programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

5. *Expresses concern* that persons with disabilities may experience disproportionately high levels of unlawful and arbitrary deprivation of liberty, and recalls that persons with disabilities should not be deprived of their liberty unlawfully or arbitrarily, and that if persons with disabilities are deprived of their liberty through any process, they are, on an equal basis with others, entitled to guarantees in accordance with international human rights law, including by provision of reasonable accommodation;

6. *Appeals* to Governments to include, in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in their national development plans, the effective administration of justice and equal access to justice for all as an integral part of the development process, with a view to promoting and protecting human rights, and to allocate adequate resources for effective, fair, humane and accountable justice systems, including the provision of legal aid services, and invites the international community to respond favourably to requests for financial and technical assistance for the enhancement and strengthening of the administration of justice;

7. *Reaffirms* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective into the criminal justice system by promoting measures that address the specific needs of both offenders and victims, including the protection of women and girls from revictimization in criminal justice proceedings;

8. *Urges* States, bearing in mind national priorities, to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of women at all levels, including in institutions of governance and in the judicial system, and to secure their empowerment and full and equal access to justice without discrimination, including through taking legislative and practical measures to eliminate barriers, dismantle related stereotypes and ensure the equality of women and girls in the administration of justice and maximum protection for women and girls deprived of their liberty from all forms of violence;

9. *Stresses* the special need for national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice, in particular through reform of the judiciary, the police and the penal system, as well as juvenile justice reform, and through the encouragement of independence, accessibility, accountability and transparency in the judiciary, in order to establish and maintain stable societies and the rule of law in post-conflict situations, and welcomes the role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in supporting the establishment and functioning of transitional justice mechanisms in post-conflict situations;

10. *Reaffirms* that no one should be unlawfully or arbitrarily deprived of liberty, and notes that any deprivation should observe the principles of necessity and proportionality in this regard;

11. *Calls upon* States to apply individual criminal responsibility and to refrain from detaining persons based solely on their family ties with an alleged offender;

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[561] A/77/364.

[562] A/HRC/42/20.

12. *Also calls upon* States to ensure that anyone who is deprived of liberty through arrest or detention has prompt access to a competent court with the effective power to determine the lawfulness of the detention and to order release if the detention or imprisonment is determined not to be lawful and prompt access to legal counsel, which could include legal aid schemes, in accordance with their international obligations and commitments;

13. *Calls upon* all States to consider establishing, maintaining or enhancing independent national mechanisms with the mandate to monitor all places of detention, including by making unannounced visits, and to hold private interviews without witnesses with all persons deprived of liberty, inter alia, in line with the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules);[563]

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of States' keeping under systematic review rules, instructions, methods and practices on interviewing, as well as arrangements for the custody and treatment of persons subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment under their jurisdiction, including by taking into account, as appropriate, the Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations and Information Gathering (the Méndez Principles);

15. *Calls upon* States to ensure a proper file and data management system on prisoners that allows the tracking of the number of persons deprived of their liberty, their detention period, offences or grounds for detention, and developments regarding the prison population, and encourages States to collect other up-to-date, comprehensive and disaggregated data, including on women's and children's needs and challenges in accessing justice, that allow for the identification and prevention of discrimination in the administration of justice and overincarceration;

16. *Affirms* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism, including in the administration of justice, complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

17. *Recalls* the absolute prohibition of torture in international law, and calls upon States to address and prevent the detention conditions, treatment and punishment of persons deprived of their liberty, including in police custody, that amount to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

18. *Calls upon* States to investigate promptly, effectively and impartially all alleged human rights violations suffered by persons deprived of their liberty, in particular cases involving death, torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, to provide effective remedy to the victims, in accordance with their international obligations and commitments, and to ensure that detention administrations fully cooperate with the investigating authority and preserve all evidence;

19. *Urges* States to endeavour to reduce, where appropriate, pretrial detention, which should be a measure of last resort and for as short a period as possible, inter alia, by adopting legislative and administrative measures and policies on its preconditions, limitations, duration and alternatives and by taking measures aimed at the implementation of existing legislation, as well as by ensuring access to justice and legal advice and assistance, which could include legal aid schemes;

20. *Encourages* States to address overcrowding in detention facilities, bearing in mind the various impacts of COVID-19 on persons deprived of their liberty, by taking effective measures, including through enhancing the availability and use of alternatives to pretrial detention and custodial sentences, bearing in mind the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules)[564] and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[565] access to legal aid, mechanisms for crime prevention, early release and rehabilitation programmes and the efficiency as well as the capacity of the criminal justice system and its facilities, bearing in mind the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems;[566]

21. *Urges* States to take all measures, including those related to the use of digital technologies, necessary to prevent and eliminate discrimination in law and in practice against persons who are in vulnerable situations or

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[563] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[564] Resolution 45/110, annex.

[565] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[566] Resolution 67/187, annex.

marginalized in the administration of justice that may also result in their overincarceration and overrepresentation throughout the criminal justice process;

22. *Also urges* States to pay special attention to the conditions of detention or imprisonment of persons who are in vulnerable situations or marginalized and to their particular needs;

23. *Continues to encourage* States to pay due attention to the Bangkok Rules when developing and implementing relevant legislation, procedures, policies and action plans, and invites relevant special procedure mandate holders, the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and all other relevant organizations to take those rules into consideration in their activities;

24. *Encourages* States to review penal policies that can contribute to overincarceration and overcrowding, in particular regarding so-called "zero-tolerance policies", such as the application of mandatory pretrial detention and mandatory minimum sentences, especially for minor and/or non-violent crimes;

25. *Recognizes* that all children and juveniles alleged as, accused of or recognized as having infringed the law, particularly those who are deprived of their liberty, as well as child victims and witnesses of crimes, should be treated in a manner consistent with their rights, dignity and needs, in accordance with international law, bearing in mind relevant international standards on human rights in the administration of justice, taking into account also the age, gender, social circumstances and development needs of such children, and calls upon States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and States parties to the Optional Protocols to the Convention[567] to abide strictly by their principles and respective provisions;

26. *Takes note with appreciation* of the global study on children deprived of liberty[568] and the leadership of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in the follow-up to the study in cooperation with the other entities in the United Nations inter-agency task force and the non-governmental organization panel, and in this regard encourages Member States, United Nations agencies, funds, programmes and offices, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to consider the follow-up to and recommendations of the global study;

27. *Encourages* States that have not yet integrated children's issues into their overall rule of law efforts to do so and to develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated justice policy for children that prioritizes prevention and early intervention to prevent and address juvenile delinquency and to address risks and causes for children's contact with the juvenile and/or criminal justice system by providing necessary support through child protection systems that encompass social protection, education and physical and mental health, as well as with a view to promoting, inter alia, the use of alternative measures, such as diversion and restorative justice, in cases where a child commits a crime, and complying with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention for children;

28. *Stresses* the importance of including reintegration strategies for former child offenders in justice policies, in particular through the provision of gender-sensitive education and life skills programmes, as well as treatment and services for substance abuse and mental health needs, in line with relevant commitments and obligations under international human rights law, with a view to their assuming a constructive role in society;

29. *Urges* States to take all necessary and effective measures, including legal reform where appropriate, to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against children within the justice system, including within the informal justice system, where it exists, and to consider applying the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[569] as appropriate, in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of laws, policies, programmes, budgets and mechanisms aimed at eliminating violence against children in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and encourages States to support and to benefit, as appropriate, from the programme proposed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Children's Fund in this regard;

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[567] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

[568] A/74/136.

[569] Resolution 69/194, annex.

30. *Also urges* States to ensure that, under their legislation and practice, neither capital punishment nor life imprisonment without the possibility of release nor corporal punishment is imposed for offences committed by persons under 18 years of age, and encourages States to consider repealing all other forms of life imprisonment for offences committed by persons under 18 years of age;

31. *Encourages* States not to set the minimum age of criminal responsibility at too low an age level, bearing in mind the emotional, mental and intellectual maturity of the child, and in this respect notes the recommendation of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to increase the minimum age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years as the absolute minimum age, and to continue to increase it to a higher age level;[570]

32. *Also encourages* States to gather relevant information, including through data collection and research, concerning children within their criminal justice systems so as to improve their administration of justice, while being mindful of the children's right to privacy, with full respect for relevant international human rights instruments, and bearing in mind applicable international standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

33. *Stresses* the importance of paying greater attention to the impact on children of imprisonment or other sentences imposed upon their parents, while noting with interest the convening of and reports on all relevant meetings and panel discussions on these issues held by the Human Rights Council;[571]

34. *Calls upon* States to take effective and appropriate measures to remove all barriers preventing persons with disabilities from having effective access to justice on an equal basis with others and without discrimination;

35. *Encourages* States to ensure equal access to justice for persons with disabilities through the provision of accessible information and communications, physical accessibility to relevant premises, gender- and age-appropriate accommodations that take into account their will and legal counselling, and, where applicable, free or subsidized and accessible legal aid, and to deploy efforts to enable the meaningful and equal participation of persons with disabilities throughout all stages of the judicial process;

36. *Calls upon* States to ensure effective access to justice for persons with disabilities when investigating, prosecuting and punishing persons responsible for human rights violations and abuses committed against them, including by providing effective remedies, taking into consideration, on an equal basis with others, the specific circumstances of the person with disabilities, as well as by implementing systemic changes, legal and policy reforms and capacity-building where needed in order to ensure non-repetition;

37. *Invites* States to provide for tailored and interdisciplinary human rights training, including anti-racist, anti-discriminatory, multicultural, disability-inclusive, gender-sensitive and child rights training, as well as on the implications of the use of digital technologies in the field of criminal justice in this regard, to all judges, lawyers, prosecutors, social workers, immigration, correction and police officers and other professionals concerned, including personnel deployed in international field presences;

38. *Also invites* States, upon their request, to benefit from technical advice and assistance provided by the relevant United Nations entities and programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

39. *Invites* the Office of the High Commissioner and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to reinforce their technical assistance to States, upon request and in accordance with their respective mandates, to strengthen the national capacity-building of States in the field of the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations, and in this context to strengthen cooperation with relevant United Nations entities;

40. *Underlines* the importance of rebuilding and strengthening structures for the administration of justice and of respecting the rule of law and human rights, including in post-conflict situations, as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice and ending impunity, and in this respect requests the Secretary-General to further streamline and strengthen system-wide coordination and coherence of programmes and activities of the relevant parts of the United Nations system, including through the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the

[570] See CRC/C/GC/24.

[571] A/HRC/21/31 and A/HRC/25/33.

global focal point arrangement for the police, justice and corrections areas in the rule of law in post-conflict and other crisis situations;

41. *Invites* States, in the context of the universal periodic review mechanism and in their reports under international human rights treaties, to consider addressing the promotion and protection of human rights in the administration of justice;

42. *Also invites* States, when reviewing progress made in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to consider the possibility of looking into the causes and effects of overincarceration and overcrowding, including, where persons are in vulnerable situations or marginalized, with regard to non-discrimination and persons who are in vulnerable situations or marginalized in the administration of justice;

43. *Invites* relevant special procedure mandate holders of the Human Rights Council, as well as relevant treaty bodies, to give special attention to questions relating to the effective protection of human rights in the administration of justice, and to provide, wherever appropriate, specific recommendations in this regard, including proposals for advisory services and technical assistance measures;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the latest developments, challenges and good practices in human rights in the administration of justice, including on the application of digital technologies in the administration of justice, and on the activities undertaken by the United Nations system as a whole;

45. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its seventy-ninth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 77/220

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[572]

77/220. Missing persons

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the principles and norms of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[573] and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,[574] as well as international standards and instruments of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[575] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[576] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[577] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[578] the Convention on the Rights of

[572] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tunisia, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[573] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[574] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[575] Resolution 217 A (III).

[576] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[577] Ibid.

[578] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

the Child[579] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[580]

Recalling the accession by 68 States to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,[581] and calling upon States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to it as a matter of priority, as well as to consider the option provided for in articles 31 and 32 of the Convention regarding the Committee on Enforced Disappearances,

Recalling also all previous relevant resolutions on missing persons adopted by the General Assembly, as well as the resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, and Security Council resolution 2474 (2019) of 11 June 2019,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 75/184 of 16 December 2020 as well as all previous resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the right to the truth,

Noting with deep concern the growing number of armed conflicts in various parts of the world, often resulting in serious violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

Noting that the issue of persons reported missing in connection with international or non-international armed conflicts, in particular those who are victims of violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, continues to have a negative impact on efforts to put an end to those conflicts and inflicts grievous suffering on the families of missing persons, and stressing in this regard the need to address the issue from, inter alia, a humanitarian and rule of law perspective,

Expressing its concern about the dramatic increase since 2014 in persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict, and recognizing that it is critical for States to address the issue holistically, from prevention to the tracing, location, identification and return of missing persons,

Considering that the problem of missing persons may raise questions of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, as appropriate,

Bearing in mind that cases of missing persons involve conduct that may constitute criminal offences, and stressing the importance of ending impunity for violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law with respect to missing persons,

Expressing its deep concern that thousands of migrants continue to die or go missing each year along perilous routes on land and at sea, in transit and destination countries, and recalling in this regard the adoption of the Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum[582] which, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to include actionable recommendations on strengthening cooperation on missing migrants and providing humanitarian assistance,

Cognizant that States that are parties to an armed conflict have a responsibility for countering the phenomenon of missing persons, taking all appropriate measures to prevent persons from going missing, including, when appropriate, effectively investigating the conditions relating to persons going missing and determining the fate of missing persons, and for recognizing their accountability as regards implementing the relevant mechanisms, policies and laws, while noting the importance for States to take steps to ensure the forensic recovery and identification of remains, where possible,

Noting that accountability, including the promotion of truth, justice, reparations and guarantees of non-recurrence, is one of the key components of addressing the issue of missing persons,

Bearing in mind the effective search for and identification of missing persons using forensic sciences and other emerging technologies, and recognizing that great technological progress has been made in this field, including DNA

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[579] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[580] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[581] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2716, No. 48088.

[582] Resolution 76/266, annex.

forensic analysis, which can significantly assist efforts to identify missing persons and to investigate violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

Recognizing that the establishment and effective work of competent national institutions can play a crucial role in clarifying the fate of missing persons in connection with armed conflict,

Bearing in mind that the question of missing persons entails consequences not only for the victims themselves, but also for their families, especially women, children and older persons, and in this regard recognizing the importance of addressing the legal situation of missing persons in connection with armed conflict, supporting their family members through national policies that include a gender perspective, as appropriate, and ensuring their participation in relevant processes related to actions taken in response to cases of missing persons, as well as their access to information and effective remedies,

Noting, in this regard, the progress made by coordination mechanisms, established in different parts of the world, aiming at exchanging information and identifying missing persons, which have contributed to informing families of the fate and whereabouts of their missing relatives,

Recognizing that respect for and implementation of international humanitarian law can reduce the number of cases of missing persons in armed conflict, and in this regard stressing the importance of encouraging greater understanding of and respect for international humanitarian law,

Stressing the importance of measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, which may include enacting national legislation, ensuring the registration of detainees and notification upon their detention and allowing them to correspond with their families, ensuring the right to be treated with humanity and respecting the human rights of all detainees and persons unaccounted for, providing appropriate training for armed forces, producing and providing proper means of identification, the establishment of information bureaux, grave registration services and registers of deaths, ensuring accountability in cases of missing persons and complying with obligations under international humanitarian law regarding persons deprived of their liberty,

Noting that the adequate, respectful and dignified management of the dead and good practices in casualty recording can complement efforts to prevent persons from going missing and help to clarify the fate and whereabouts of persons unaccounted for in armed conflict,

Stressing the need to raise public awareness of the problem of missing persons in connection with armed conflict as an important concern, as well as relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and human rights law,

Noting the Agreement on the Status and Functions of the International Commission on Missing Persons,[583] which established the Commission as an international organization,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing international and regional efforts to address the question of missing persons and the initiatives undertaken by international and regional organizations in this field,

Noting the launch of the Global Alliance for the Missing with the aim of collectively bringing to bear diplomatic, political and financial capacities and influence to improve the prevention of, and response to, the issue of missing persons,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[584]

1. *Urges* States to strictly observe and to respect and ensure respect for the rules of international humanitarian law, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and, where applicable, in the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977;

2. *Calls upon* States parties to an armed conflict to take all appropriate measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, to account for persons reported missing as a result of such a situation and, in cases of missing persons, to take such measures, as appropriate, in order to ensure thorough, prompt, impartial and effective investigations and the prosecution of offences linked to missing persons, consistent with their obligations under international law, with a view to full accountability;

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[583] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3072, No. 53043.

[584] A/77/245.

3. *Calls upon* States to take measures to prevent persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, including by fully implementing their obligations and commitments under relevant international law;

4. *Urges* States to avoid harm to civilians as an important factor in preventing persons from going missing in connection with armed conflict, including in minimizing the military use of civilian infrastructure, in accordance with applicable international law;

5. *Reaffirms* the right of families to know the fate of their relatives reported missing in connection with armed conflict and the importance of ensuring their participation in relevant processes related to actions taken in response to cases of missing persons;

6. *Also reaffirms* that each party to an armed conflict, as soon as circumstances permit and, at the latest, from the end of active hostilities, shall search for persons who have been reported missing by an adverse party and ensure that all relevant information on those who died as a result of armed conflict is recorded;

7. *Calls upon* States that are parties to an armed conflict to take all necessary measures, in a timely manner, to determine the identity and fate of persons reported missing in connection with the armed conflict, without any adverse distinction, and, to the greatest extent possible, to provide their family members, through appropriate channels, with all relevant information that they have on their fate, including their whereabouts or, if they are dead, the circumstances and cause of their death;

8. *Recognizes* the need for appropriate means of identification and for the collection, protection and management of data on missing persons and unidentified remains, consistent with applicable international and national law, and urges all concerned States to cooperate with each other and with other concerned actors working in this area by, inter alia, providing all relevant information related to missing persons, including on their fate and whereabouts;

9. *Requests* States to pay the utmost attention to cases of children reported missing in connection with armed conflict and to take appropriate measures to search for and identify those children and to reunite them with their families;

10. *Invites* States that are parties to an armed conflict to cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross in establishing the fate of missing persons and to adopt a comprehensive approach to this issue, including all such legal and practical measures and coordination mechanisms as may be necessary, based on humanitarian considerations only;

11. *Urges* States that are parties to an armed conflict to cooperate, consistent with their international obligations, in order to effectively solve cases of missing persons, including by providing mutual assistance in terms of information-sharing, victim assistance, location and identification of missing persons and recovery, identification and return of human remains and, if possible, by identifying, mapping and preserving burial sites;

12. *Invites* States to encourage interaction between competent organizations and institutions, such as national commissions on missing persons, which play a crucial role in clarifying the fate of persons missing in connection with armed conflict and providing support to the families of the missing;

13. *Urges* States, and encourages intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to take all necessary measures at the national, regional and international levels to address the problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict without any adverse distinction and to provide appropriate assistance, as requested by the concerned States, and welcomes in this regard the establishment and efforts of commissions and working groups on missing persons;

14. *Calls upon* States, without prejudice to their efforts to determine the fate of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict, to take appropriate steps with regard to the legal situation of missing persons and the individual needs and accompaniment of their family members, with particular attention to the needs of women, children and older persons, in such fields as social welfare, psychological and psychosocial support, financial matters, family law and property rights;

15. *Invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to further their engagement in order to follow forensic best practices as they apply to preventing and resolving cases of missing persons in connection with armed conflict;

16. *Also invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to exchange best practices and technical recommendations and to promote cooperation, as appropriate, including between mechanisms related to missing persons, pertaining, inter alia, to the search for and clarification of the fate and whereabouts of missing persons, the use and development of digital tools, forensic analysis and identification and addressing the needs of families;

17. *Further invites* States, national institutions and, as appropriate, intergovernmental, international and non-governmental organizations to ensure the development and proper management of archives pertaining to missing persons and unidentified remains in connection with armed conflict, as well as access to those archives, in accordance with relevant applicable laws and regulations;

18. *Stresses* the need to address the issue of missing persons as a part of peace and peacebuilding processes, with reference to all justice and rule of law mechanisms, including the judiciary, parliamentary commissions and truth-finding mechanisms, on the basis of transparency, accountability and public involvement and participation;

19. *Welcomes* the progress made in clarifying the fate of missing persons in connection with armed conflict;

20. *Invites* relevant human rights mechanisms and procedures, as appropriate, to address the problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflict in their forthcoming reports to the General Assembly;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek further the views of Member States and relevant agencies and to submit to the Human Rights Council at its relevant session and to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, including relevant practical recommendations;

22. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene an informal biennial meeting of the General Assembly, from the seventy-ninth session onward, and requests the Secretary-General to brief the Assembly during such meetings on the comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be followed by a dialogue;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and international humanitarian organizations;

24. *Decides* to consider the question at its seventy-ninth session.

RESOLUTION 77/221

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[585]

77/221. Freedom of religion or belief

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[586] article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[587] and other relevant human rights provisions,

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[585] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

[586] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[587] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recalling also its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Recalling further its previous resolutions on freedom of religion or belief and on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, including its resolution 76/156 of 16 December 2021 and Human Rights Council resolution 49/5 of 31 March 2022,[588]

Recognizing the important work carried out by the Human Rights Committee in providing guidance with respect to the scope of freedom of religion or belief,

Noting the conclusions and recommendations of the expert workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and contained in the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, adopted in Rabat on 5 October 2012,[589]

Considering that religion or belief, for those who profess either, is one of the fundamental elements in their conception of life and that freedom of religion or belief, as a universal human right, should be fully respected and guaranteed,

Seriously concerned by continuing acts of intolerance and violence based on religion or belief against individuals, including against persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities around the world, and by the increasing number and intensity of such incidents, which are often of a criminal nature and may have international characteristics,

Deeply concerned by the limited progress that has been made in the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, and believing that further intensified efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, as noted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, as well as at the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009,

Recalling that States have the primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights, including the human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, including their right to exercise their religion or belief freely,

Concerned that State and non-State actors sometimes tolerate or encourage acts of violence, or credible threats of violence, against persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities,

Concerned also by the increasing number of laws and regulations that limit the freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and by the implementation of existing laws in a discriminatory manner,

Convinced of the need to urgently address the rapid rise in various parts of the world of religious extremism that affects the human rights of individuals, in particular persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities, the situations of violence and discrimination that affect many individuals, particularly women and children, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief or in accordance with cultural and traditional practices, and the misuse of religion or belief for ends inconsistent with the principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and in other relevant instruments of the United Nations,

Seriously concerned about all attacks on religious places, sites and shrines that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments, and including also those carried out in connection with incitement to national, racial or religious hatred,

Emphasizing that States, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies, the media and civil society as a whole have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

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[588] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. VI, sect. A.

[589] A/HRC/22/17/Add.4, appendix.

Underlining the importance of education, including human rights education, in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining also the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Stresses* that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which includes the freedom to have or not to have, or to adopt, a religion or belief of one's own choice and the freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance, including the right to change one's religion or belief;

2. *Emphasizes* that the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief applies equally to all persons, regardless of their religion or belief and without any discrimination as to their equal protection by the law;

3. *Strongly condemns* violations of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, as well as all forms of intolerance, discrimination and violence based on religion or belief;

4. *Recognizes with deep concern* the overall rise in instances of discrimination, intolerance and violence, regardless of the actors, directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, antisemitism and Christianophobia and prejudices against persons of other religions or beliefs;

5. *Reaffirms* that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion or belief, as this may have adverse consequences for the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief of all members of the religious communities concerned;

6. *Strongly condemns* continuing violence and acts of terrorism targeting individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief, and underlines the importance of a comprehensive and inclusive community-based preventive approach, involving a wide set of actors, including civil society and religious communities;

7. *Recalls* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish acts of violence, intimidation and harassment against a person or a group of persons belonging to a religious minority, regardless of the perpetrator, and that failure to do so may constitute a human rights violation;

8. *Emphasizes* that freedom of religion or belief, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to peaceful assembly and the right to freedom of association are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and stresses the role that these rights can play in the fight against all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief;

9. *Strongly condemns* any advocacy of hatred based on religion or belief that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

10. *Expresses concern* at the persistence of institutionalized social intolerance and discrimination practised against many on the grounds of religion or belief, and emphasizes that legal procedures pertaining to religious or belief-based groups and places of worship are not a prerequisite for the exercise of the right to manifest one's religion or belief and that such procedures, when legally required at the national or local level, should be non-discriminatory in order to contribute to the effective protection of the right of all persons to practise their religion or belief, either individually or in community with others and in public or private;

11. *Recognizes with concern* the challenges that persons in vulnerable situations, including persons deprived of their liberty, refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced persons, children, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and migrants, as well as women, are facing as regards their ability to freely exercise their right to freedom of religion or belief;

12. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest one's religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law, are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, are non-discriminatory and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

13. *Expresses deep concern* at continued obstacles to the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief, as well as the increasing number of instances of intolerance, discrimination and violence based on religion or belief, including:

(a) Acts of violence and intolerance directed against individuals based on their religion or belief, including religious persons and persons belonging to religious minorities and other communities in various parts of the world;

(b) The rise of religious extremism in various parts of the world that affects the human rights of individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities;

(c) Incidents of hatred, discrimination, intolerance and violence based on religion or belief, which may be associated with or manifested by the derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief;

(d) Attacks on or the destruction of religious places, sites and shrines that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as they have more than material significance for the dignity and lives of persons holding spiritual or religious beliefs;

(e) Instances, both in law and practice, that constitute violations of the human right to freedom of religion or belief, including of the individual right to publicly express one's spiritual and religious beliefs, taking into account the relevant articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as other international instruments;

(f) Constitutional and legislative systems that fail to provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction;

14. *Urges* States to step up their efforts to protect and promote freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to that end:

(a) To ensure that their constitutional and legislative systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction by, inter alia, providing access to justice, including by facilitating legal assistance and effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief or the right to freely choose and practise one's religion or belief is violated, paying particular attention to persons belonging to religious minorities;

(b) To implement all accepted universal periodic review recommendations related to the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief;

(c) To ensure that no one within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty and security of person because of religion or belief, to provide adequate protection to persons at risk of violent attack on the grounds of their religion or belief, to ensure that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights;

(d) To end violations of the human rights of women and girls and to devote particular attention to appropriate measures modifying or abolishing existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that discriminate against them, including in the exercise of their right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to foster practical ways to ensure gender equality;

(e) To ensure that existing legislation is not implemented in a discriminatory manner or does not result in discrimination based on religion or belief, that no one is discriminated against on the basis of his or her religion or belief when accessing, inter alia, education, medical care, employment, humanitarian assistance or social benefits, and that everyone has the right and the opportunity to have access, on general terms of equality, to public services in their country, without any discrimination based on religion or belief;

(f) To review, whenever relevant, existing registration practices in order to ensure that such practices do not limit the right of all persons to manifest their religion or belief, either alone or in community with others and in public or private;

(g) To ensure that no official documents are withheld from the individual on the grounds of religion or belief and that everyone has the right to refrain from disclosing information concerning their religious affiliation in such documents against their will;

(h) To ensure, in particular, the right of all persons to worship, assemble or teach in connection with a religion or belief, their right to establish and maintain places for these purposes and the right of all persons to seek, receive and impart information and ideas in these areas;

(i) To ensure that, in accordance with appropriate national legislation and in conformity with international human rights law, the freedom of all persons and members of groups to establish and maintain religious, charitable or humanitarian institutions is fully respected and protected;

(j) To ensure that all public officials and civil servants, including members of law enforcement bodies, and personnel of detention facilities, the military and educators, in the course of fulfilling their official duties, respect freedom of religion or belief and do not discriminate for reasons based on religion or belief, and that they receive all necessary and appropriate awareness-raising, education or training on respect for freedom of religion or belief;

(k) To take all necessary and appropriate action, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to combat hatred, discrimination, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by intolerance based on religion or belief, as well as incitement to hostility and violence, with particular regard to persons belonging to religious minorities in all parts of the world;

(l) To promote, through education and other means, mutual understanding, tolerance, non-discrimination and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief by encouraging, in society at large, a wider knowledge of the diversity of religions and beliefs and of the history, traditions, languages and cultures of the various religious minorities existing within their jurisdiction;

(m) To prevent any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on religion or belief that impairs the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis and to detect signs of intolerance that may lead to discrimination based on religion or belief;

15. *Welcomes and encourages* initiatives by the media to promote tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief, and stresses the importance of unhindered participation in the media and in public discourse for all persons, regardless of their religion or belief;

16. *Stresses* the importance of a continued and strengthened dialogue in all its forms, including among and within religions or beliefs, and with broader participation, including of women, to promote greater tolerance, respect and mutual understanding, and welcomes different initiatives in this regard, including the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations initiative and the programmes led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

17. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of all actors in society, including national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, to promote the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[590] and further encourages their work in promoting freedom of religion or belief, in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution and in promoting religious tolerance;

18. *Recommends* that States, the United Nations and other actors, including national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, in their efforts to promote freedom of religion or belief, ensure the widest possible dissemination of the text of the Declaration in as many different languages as possible and promote its implementation;

19. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on freedom of religion or belief;[591]

20. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, to respond favourably to her requests to visit their countries and to provide all information and follow-up necessary for the effective fulfilment of her mandate;

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[590] Resolution 36/55.

[591] See A/77/514.

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the resources necessary to fully discharge her mandate;

22. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

23. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its seventy-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 77/222

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 125 to 37, with 22 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[592]

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

Against: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Grenada, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Maldives, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Yemen

Abstaining: Belarus, Burundi, Cameroon, Cuba, Eswatini, Gabon, Guyana, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

77/222. Moratorium on the use of the death penalty

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[593] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[594] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[595]

Recalling the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty,[596] and in this regard welcoming the increasing number of accessions to and ratifications of the Second Optional Protocol,

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[592] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[593] Resolution 217 A (III).

[594] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[595] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[596] Ibid., vol. 1642, No. 14668.

Recalling also its resolutions 62/149 of 18 December 2007, 63/168 of 18 December 2008, 65/206 of 21 December 2010, 67/176 of 20 December 2012, 69/186 of 18 December 2014, 71/187 of 19 December 2016, 73/175 of 17 December 2018 and 75/183 of 16 December 2020 on the question of a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, in which the General Assembly called upon States that still maintain the death penalty to establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing it,

Recalling further all relevant decisions and resolutions of the Human Rights Council, the most recent of which was resolution 48/9 of 8 October 2021,[597]

Mindful that any miscarriage or failure of justice in the implementation of the death penalty is irreversible and irreparable,

Convinced that a moratorium on the use of the death penalty contributes to respect for human dignity and to the enhancement and progressive development of human rights, and considering that there is no conclusive evidence of the deterrent value of the death penalty,

Noting ongoing local and national debates and regional initiatives on the death penalty, as well as the readiness of an increasing number of Member States to make available to the public information on the use of the death penalty, and also, in this regard, the decision by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 26/2 of 26 June 2014[598] to convene biennial high-level panel discussions in order to further exchange views on the question of the death penalty,

Recognizing the role of national human rights institutions and civil society in contributing to ongoing local and national debates and regional initiatives on the death penalty,

Noting the long-term reductions in reported executions, as well as the increase in commutations of death sentences, and welcoming all measures taken by States towards limiting the application of the death penalty,

Emphasizing the need to ensure that persons facing the death penalty have access to justice without discrimination of any kind, including access to legal counsel, that they are treated with humanity and with respect for their inherent dignity and in compliance with their rights under international human rights law, and to improve conditions in prisons in accordance with international standards, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[599]

Noting with deep concern that, as shown in recent reports of the Secretary-General, frequently, poor and economically vulnerable persons, foreign nationals, persons exercising their human rights and persons belonging to religious or ethnic minorities are disproportionately represented among those sentenced to the death penalty and the discriminatory application of the death penalty, to women,[600]

Noting that transparent reporting and access to information regarding the use of the death penalty and criminal prosecutions can expose discriminatory practices or impact in the imposition and application of the death penalty, and recalling that, particularly in cases of capital punishment, States must guarantee transparency in order to ensure that all persons benefit from due process guarantees,

Noting also the negative impact that the imposition of the death penalty has on the rights of children and youth whose parents or parental caregivers face the death penalty, as well as other family members,

Noting further the technical cooperation among Member States, as well as the role of relevant United Nations entities and human rights mechanisms, in supporting State efforts to establish moratoriums on the death penalty,

Bearing in mind the work of the treaty bodies and special procedure mandate holders that have addressed human rights issues related to the death penalty within the framework of their respective mandates,

Welcoming the considerable movement towards the abolition of the death penalty globally and the fact that many States with different legal systems, traditions, cultures and religious backgrounds are applying a moratorium, including long-standing moratoriums, either in law or in practice, on the use of the death penalty,

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[597] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/76/53/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[598] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[599] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[600] See, inter alia, A/73/260 and A/75/309.

1. *Reaffirms* the sovereign right of all countries to develop their own legal systems, including determining appropriate legal penalties, in accordance with their international law obligations;

2. *Expresses its deep concern* about the continued application of the death penalty;

3. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 75/183 and the recommendations contained therein;[601]

4. *Also welcomes* the steps taken by some States to reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty may be imposed, as well as steps taken to limit its application, including by commuting death sentences;

5. *Further welcomes* initiatives and political leadership encouraging national discussions and debates on the possibility of moving away from capital punishment through domestic decision-making;

6. *Welcomes* the decisions made by an increasing number of States from all regions, at all levels of government, to apply a moratorium on executions, followed in many cases by the abolition of the death penalty;

7. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To respect international standards that provide safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty, in particular the minimum standards, as set out in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984, as well as to provide the Secretary-General with information in this regard;

(b) To comply with their obligations under article 36 of the 1963 Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[602] particularly the obligation of a receiving State to, without delay, inform a sending State that a national of that State has been arrested or committed to prison or to custody pending trial or is detained in any other manner, if the person concerned so requests; and the obligation of a receiving State to inform the person concerned without delay of their rights under article 36;

(c) To make available relevant information, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, nationality and race, as applicable, and other applicable criteria, with regard to their use of the death penalty, inter alia, the number of persons sentenced to death, the number of persons on death row and the location of their detention, and the number of executions carried out, the number of death sentences reversed or commuted on appeal or in which amnesty or pardon has been granted, and according to which procedure, as well as information on any scheduled execution, which can contribute to possible informed and transparent national and international debates, including on the obligations of States pertaining to the use of the death penalty;

(d) To ensure that any trial leading to the imposition of the death penalty complies with internationally recognized fair trial guarantees, such as a fair and public trial and the right to legal assistance, including adequate access to legal counsel at every stage of the proceedings, without discrimination of any kind, including for persons belonging to minorities and foreign nationals, bearing in mind that namely failure to respect fair trial guarantees in proceedings resulting in the imposition of the death penalty could constitute a violation of the right to life;

(e) To progressively restrict the use of the death penalty and not to impose capital punishment for offences committed by persons below 18 years of age or whose age above 18 years at the time of the commission of the crime cannot be accurately determined, on pregnant women or on persons with mental or intellectual disabilities;

(f) To reduce the number of offences for which the death penalty may be imposed, including by considering removing the mandatory application of the death penalty;

(g) To ensure that those facing the death penalty can exercise their right to apply for pardon or commutation of their death sentence by ensuring that clemency procedures are fair and transparent and that prompt information is provided at all stages of the process;

(h) To ensure that children whose parents or parental caregivers are on death row, the inmates themselves, their families and their legal representatives are provided, in advance, with adequate information about the location of their detention, a pending execution, its date, time and location, to allow a last visit or communication with the

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[601] A/77/274.

[602] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

convicted person, the return of the body to the family for burial or to inform on where the body is located, unless this is not in the best interests of the child;

(i) To provide access for persons sentenced to death to information related to the method of execution, in particular the precise procedures to be followed;

(j) To ensure that the death penalty is not applied on the basis of discriminatory laws, including laws which target individuals for exercising their human rights, or as a result of discriminatory or arbitrary application of the law;

(k) To improve conditions in detention for those on trial for capital crimes or on death row, by ensuring that all prisoners are treated with humanity and with respect for their inherent dignity, and complying with international standards, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), in particular by evaluating, promoting, protecting and improving their physical and mental health;

(l) To establish a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty;

8. *Calls upon* States which have abolished the death penalty not to reintroduce it, and encourages them to share their experience in this regard;

9. *Encourages* States which have a moratorium to maintain it and to share their experience in this regard;

10. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its seventy-ninth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 77/223

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[603]

77/223. Human rights and extreme poverty

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[604] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[605] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[606] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[607] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of

[603] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia.

[604] Resolution 217 A (III).

[605] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[606] Ibid.

[607] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

Discrimination against Women,[608] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[609] the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[610] and all other human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it declared 17 October the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, as well as its resolution 75/175 of 16 December 2020 and its previous resolutions on human rights and extreme poverty, in which it reaffirmed that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constituted a violation of human dignity and an obstacle to the fulfilment of all human rights and that urgent national and international action was therefore required to eliminate them,

Recalling also its resolution 52/134 of 12 December 1997, in which it recognized that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights was essential for the effective understanding, promotion and protection of all human rights,

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolutions 2/2 of 27 November 2006,[611] 7/27 of 28 March 2008,[612] 8/11 of 18 June 2008,[613] 12/19 of 2 October 2009,[614] 15/19 of 30 September 2010,[615] 17/13 of 17 June 2011,[616] 26/3 of 26 June 2014,[617] 35/19 of 22 June 2017[618] and 44/13 of 16 July 2020[619] on human rights and extreme poverty, and in this regard underlining the imperative need for their full and effective implementation,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 21/11 of 27 September 2012,[620] by which the Council adopted the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights[621] as a useful tool for States in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction and eradication policies, as appropriate, and encouraging States to implement the guiding principles,

Reaffirming 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, and its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner,

Recognizing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is one of the greatest global challenges in the history of the United Nations, and noting with deep concern its impact on health and the loss of life, mental health and well-being, as well as the negative impact on global humanitarian needs, the enjoyment of human rights and across all spheres of society, including on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, and education, the exacerbation of poverty and hunger, disruption to economies, trade, societies and environments, and the exacerbation of economic and social inequalities within and among countries, which is reversing hard-won development gains and hampering progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and all its Goals and targets,

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[608] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[609] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[610] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[611] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. I, sect. A.

[612] Ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/63/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[613] Ibid., chap. III, sect. A.

[614] Ibid., *Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53 and corrigendum* (A/65/53 and A/65/53/Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[615] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/65/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[616] Ibid., *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[617] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[618] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[619] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/75/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[620] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[621] A/HRC/21/39.

Recalling that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what they did not achieve, and that they seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

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 objectives and goals of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027) to accelerate global actions for a world without poverty and to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their objective of leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first,

Reaffirming further the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[622] which states the right to development, as established in the Declaration on the Right to Development,[623] as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights,

Acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty, however, deeply concerned that progress towards ending extreme poverty has been reversed by three to four years at the global level and by eight to nine years in low-income countries, because of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that extreme poverty is particularly severe in developing countries and that it extends to and manifests itself in, among other things, social exclusion, hunger, discrimination, vulnerability to trafficking in persons, and disease, lack of adequate shelter, lack of access to basic services, including access to safe drinking water and sanitation, and the prevalence of illiteracy and hopelessness,

Remaining deeply concerned that progress has been uneven, inequality has increased, the total number of persons living in extreme poverty remains unacceptably high, with a net increase of 89 million people in extreme poverty by the end of 2022 expected compared with pre-pandemic projections, and the non-income dimensions of poverty and deprivation, such as access to inclusive and equitable quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns,

Recognizing the need to tackle health inequities and inequalities within and among countries through political commitment, policies and international cooperation, including those that address social, economic and environmental determinants of health,

Deeply concerned that gender inequality, gender-based violence and discrimination exacerbate extreme poverty, disproportionally impacting women and girls, and that the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the social and economic situation of women and girls is deepening already existing inequalities and risks slowing down the progress towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls made in recent decades, while recognizing the important role and contribution of women and girls in eradicating poverty, and acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty,

Recognizing the importance of supporting countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and to promote the empowerment of the poor and of people in vulnerable situations, including women, children, young people, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons, persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and people of African descent,

Concerned by the challenges faced today, including those derived from the ongoing impact of the financial and economic crisis, food insecurity, volatile food prices and other ongoing concerns over global food security, epidemics and large movements of refugees and migrants, as well as the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the

[622] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[623] Resolution 41/128, annex.

loss of biodiversity, and by the resulting increase in the number of people living in extreme poverty, and their negative effect on the capacity of all States, especially developing countries, to fight extreme poverty,

Bearing in mind that, in order to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty and vulnerability, promote the well-being of all persons of all ages, including persons with disabilities, boost development efforts, contribute to better outcomes for children and address the feminization of poverty, positive action needs to be taken, including in the form of policies, at the national and international levels, that address existing inequalities in the distribution of services, resources and infrastructure, as well as access to food, health care, education and decent work in cities and other human settlements,

Recognizing that the eradication of extreme poverty is a major challenge within the process of globalization that requires the coordination and continuation of inclusive policies through decisive national action and international cooperation, and recognizing also in this context the role of the private sector, including the corporate sector, in the eradication of extreme poverty,

Recalling the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights,[624] endorsed by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 17/4 of 16 June 2011,[625] which established a framework to prevent and address the adverse human rights impact of business activities, based on the three pillars of the United Nations "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework, and recognizing in this regard the efforts made to implement the Guiding Principles by some States, business enterprises, international organizations and members of civil society,

Recognizing that social protection systems make a critical contribution to the realization of human rights for all, in particular for those who are in vulnerable or marginalized situations and are trapped in poverty and subject to discrimination,

Recognizing also that persistent and growing inequalities within and among countries are a major challenge to poverty eradication, particularly affecting those who are living in extreme poverty and in vulnerable situations,

Stressing the necessity of better understanding and addressing the multidimensional causes and consequences of extreme poverty,

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 the international community,

Stressing that respect for all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, is of crucial importance for all policies and programmes to fight extreme poverty,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by Heads of State and Government to the eradication of extreme poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that they contribute to the eradication of extreme poverty,

1. *Reaffirms* that extreme poverty, deep inequality and exclusion constitute a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate them;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is essential for States to foster participation by the poorest people in the decision-making process in the societies in which they live, in the promotion of human rights and in efforts to combat extreme poverty and exclusion and that it is essential for people living in and affected by poverty and in situations of vulnerability to be empowered to organize themselves and to participate in all aspects of political, economic, social, cultural and civic life, in particular the planning and implementation of policies that affect them, thus enabling them to become genuine partners in development;

3. *Emphasizes* that extreme poverty is a major issue to be addressed by Governments, the United Nations system and international financial institutions, the private sector, including the corporate sector, civil society and

[624] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

[625] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. III, sect. A.

community-based social organizations, and in this context reaffirms that political commitment is a prerequisite for the eradication of poverty;

4. *Also emphasizes* that all business enterprises, both transnational corporations and other business enterprises, have a responsibility to respect all human rights, and recognizes that proper regulation, including through national legislation, of transnational corporations and other business enterprises and their responsible operation can contribute to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of and respect for human rights and assist in channelling the benefits of business towards contributing to the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Further emphasizes* the need to accord due consideration and priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and systemic challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, consistent with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to design recovery strategies based on risk-informed, sustainable financing policies, supported by integrated national financing frameworks in accordance with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[626] to enact the policies necessary to address the economic crisis and depression resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, begin economic recovery and minimize the negative effects of the pandemic on livelihoods, including targeted measures for poverty eradication, social protection for formal and informal sector workers, increased access to finance and capacity-building for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, financial inclusion mechanisms, strong fiscal stimulus packages and supportive monetary policies, and calls upon donors and other stakeholders to support countries that lack the capacity to implement such measures, in particular least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as low- and middle-income countries;

7. *Reaffirms* that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights, renders democracy and popular participation fragile and can also create barriers to full and effective participation in political and public life, in particular for women and girls and persons with disabilities;

8. *Recognizes* the need to respect and to realize human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

9. *Reaffirms* the commitments contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[627] in particular to leave no one behind, to reach the furthest behind and the most vulnerable and to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 1, including by sparing no effort to fight against and eradicate extreme poverty, which is currently measured as people living on less than 2.15 United States dollars a day, for all people everywhere by 2030;

10. *Also reaffirms* its full commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as the blueprint for building back better after the COVID-19 pandemic, and calls upon Member States to ensure that efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for all, by reaching all its Goals and targets, are strengthened and accelerated in this decade of action for building more sustainable, peaceful, just, equitable, inclusive and resilient societies where no one is left behind and to make sustainable long-term investments to eradicate poverty in all its forms, including extreme poverty, as well as address inequalities and human rights abuses or violations, which have greatly exacerbated vulnerabilities and increased the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and address climate change and the environmental crisis in order to build a better future for all;

11. *Further reaffirms* the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all, including women and girls;[628]

12. *Recalls* that promoting universal access to social services and providing social protection floors can make an important contribution to consolidating and achieving further development gains and that social protection systems that address and reduce inequality and social exclusion are essential for protecting the gains made towards the

[626] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[627] Resolution 70/1.

[628] See resolution 60/1.

achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), of the International Labour Organization;

13. *Encourages* States, when designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating social protection programmes, to ensure gender mainstreaming and the promotion and protection of all human rights in accordance with their obligations under international human rights law, throughout this process;

14. *Calls upon* States to implement gender-responsive social protection policies, as well as fiscal policies that contribute to promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by, inter alia, facilitating greater access to and inclusion in social protection and financial and business services, including credit, for women, in particular women heads of household;

15. *Encourages* States to take all measures necessary to eliminate discrimination against all persons, in particular those living in poverty, to refrain from adopting any laws, regulations or practices denying or limiting the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic, social and cultural rights, and to ensure that people, in particular those living in poverty, have equal access to justice;

16. *Calls upon* Member States, in taking measures to eliminate discrimination, to ensure that their legal frameworks, where relevant, are non-discriminatory on the basis of socioeconomic status and to address the need to effectively remove the obstacles that people in poverty face in areas such as housing, employment, education, health and other social services;

17. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen and support South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, recognizing their contributions to the efforts of developing countries to collaborate in the eradication of poverty, and stresses that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation;

18. *Encourages* the international community to strengthen its efforts to address challenges that are contributing to extreme poverty, including those derived from the ongoing impact of the financial and economic crisis, food insecurity, volatile food prices and other ongoing concerns over global food security, epidemics and the increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity in all parts of the world, especially in developing countries, by enhancing cooperation to help to build national capacities;

19. *Reaffirms* the critical role of quality education and lifelong learning for all in achieving poverty eradication and other development goals, as envisaged in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education and training for eradicating illiteracy, efforts towards expanded secondary and higher education as well as vocational education and technical training, especially for girls and women, the creation of human resources and infrastructure capabilities and the empowerment of those living in poverty, also reaffirms in this context the Dakar Framework for Action, adopted at the World Education Forum on 28 April 2000,[629] and the Incheon Declaration: Education 2030 – towards inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning for all, adopted at the World Education Forum 2015,[630] and recognizes the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strategy for the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education for All programmes as tools for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4 by 2030;

20. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to give high priority to the question of the relationship between extreme poverty and human rights, and also invites his Office to pursue further work in this area;

21. *Calls upon* States, United Nations bodies, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, to continue to give appropriate attention to the links between human rights and extreme poverty, and encourages the private sector, including the corporate sector, and international financial institutions to proceed likewise;

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[629] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[630] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum 2015, Incheon, Republic of Korea, 19–22 May 2015* (Paris, 2015).

22. *Takes note with appreciation* of the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights, adopted by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 21/11, as a useful tool for States in the formulation and implementation of poverty reduction and eradication policies, as appropriate;

23. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, other intergovernmental organizations and national human rights institutions, as well as non-governmental organizations and non-State actors, and the private sector, including the corporate sector, to consider the guiding principles in the formulation and implementation of their policies and measures concerning persons affected by extreme poverty;

24. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to disseminate the guiding principles, as appropriate;

25. *Welcomes* the efforts of entities throughout the United Nations system to incorporate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals set out therein into their work;

26. *Takes note* of the work undertaken by the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on extreme poverty and human rights, including his reports submitted to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth[631] and seventy-seventh sessions,[632] and notes the work of the Secretary-General to address the issues referred to therein;

27. *Decides* to consider the question further at its seventy-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms" of the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 77/224

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[633]

77/224. The role of Ombudsman and mediator institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights, good governance and the rule of law

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[634]

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[635] in which the Conference reaffirmed the important and constructive role played by national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Reaffirming its resolutions 65/207 of 21 December 2010, 67/163 of 20 December 2012, 69/168 of 18 December 2014, 71/200 of 19 December 2016, 72/186 of 19 December 2017 and 75/186 of 16 December 2020 on the role of Ombudsman and mediator institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights, good governance and the rule of law,

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[631] A/76/177.

[632] A/77/157.

[633] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia.

[634] Resolution 217 A (III).

[635] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Recalling the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993 and annexed thereto,

Acknowledging the principles on the protection and promotion of the Ombudsman institution (the Venice Principles),

Recalling its previous resolutions on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular resolutions 66/169 of 19 December 2011, 68/171 of 18 December 2013, 70/163 of 17 December 2015, 74/156 of 18 December 2019 and 76/170 of 16 December 2021, as well as Human Rights Council resolutions 23/17 of 13 June 2013,[636] 27/18 of 25 September 2014,[637] 33/15 of 29 September 2016,[638] 39/17 of 28 September 2018,[639] 45/22 of 6 October 2020[640] and 51/31 of 7 October 2022,[641]

Reaffirming the functional and structural differences between national human rights institutions, on the one hand, and Ombudsman and mediator institutions, on the other, and underlining in this regard that reports on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions on the role of the Ombudsman and mediator institutions by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights should be stand-alone reports,

Noting with appreciation that some Ombudsman or mediator institutions have been designated as national preventive mechanisms under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[642]

Acknowledging the long history of Ombudsman institutions and the subsequent extensive developments throughout the world in creating and strengthening Ombudsman and mediator institutions, and recognizing the important role that these institutions can play, in accordance with their mandate, in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, promoting good governance and respect for the rule of law by addressing the imbalance of power between the individual and the providers of public services,

Welcoming the rapidly growing interest throughout the world in the creation and strengthening of Ombudsman and mediator institutions, and recognizing the important role that these institutions can play, in accordance with their mandate, in support of national complaint resolution,

Encouraging Member States to establish independent Ombudsman and mediator institutions and to strengthen existing institutions, including by ensuring their independence, consistent with relevant principles, including the Venice Principles, and to consider seeking the assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in this regard,

Recognizing that the role of Ombudsman and mediator institutions, whether they are national human rights institutions or not, is the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, promotion of good governance and respect for the rule of law, as a separate and additional function, but also as an integral part to all other aspects of their work,

Underlining the importance of autonomy and independence from the executive or judicial branches of Government, its agencies or political parties, of Ombudsman and mediator institutions, where they exist, in order to enable them to consider all issues related to their fields of competence, without real or perceived threat to their procedural ability or efficiency and without fear of reprisal, intimidation or recrimination in any form, whether online or offline, that may threaten their functioning or the physical safety and security of their officials,

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[636] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[637] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[638] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

[639] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/73/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[640] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/75/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[641] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[642] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2375, No. 24841.

Noting with serious concern that Ombudsman and mediator institutions, where they exist, may be under threat, whether to their autonomy or credibility, to their budgets or to the physical safety and security of their officials,

Considering the role of Ombudsman and mediator institutions in promoting good governance in public administrations and improving their relations with citizens, in promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and in strengthening the delivery of public services, by promoting the rule of law, good governance, transparency, accountability, and fairness,

Considering also the important role of the existing Ombudsman and mediator institutions in contributing to the effective realization of the rule of law and respect for the principles of justice and equality,

Acknowledging the importance of affording these institutions, as appropriate, the necessary mandate, including the authority to assess, monitor and, where provided for by national legislation, investigate matters on their own initiative, as well as protection to allow action to be taken independently and effectively against unfairness towards any person or group and the importance of State support for the autonomy, competence and impartiality of the Ombudsman and of the process,

Stressing the importance of the financial and administrative independence and stability of these institutions, and noting with satisfaction the efforts of those States that have provided their Ombudsman and mediator institutions with more autonomy and independence, including by giving them an investigative role or enhancing such a role,

Stressing also that these institutions, where they exist, can play an important role in advising Governments with respect to drafting or amending existing national laws and policies, ratifying relevant international instruments and bringing national legislation and national practices into line with their States' international human rights obligations,

Stressing further the importance of international cooperation between Ombudsman offices and mediators, and recalling the role played by regional and international associations of Ombudsman and mediator institutions in promoting cooperation and sharing best practices,

Encouraging the Ombudsman and mediator institutions to share best practices on their work and functioning, and to continue engaging actively with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Ombudsman Institute, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions and other regional networks and associations to exchange experiences, lessons learned and best practices,

Noting with satisfaction the active continuing work of the global network of Ombudsmen, the International Ombudsman Institute, and the close cooperation with the active regional Ombudsman and mediator associations and networks, namely, the Association of Mediterranean Ombudsmen, the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudsmen, the Association of Ombudsmen and Mediators of la Francophonie, the Asian Ombudsman Association, the African Ombudsman and Mediators Association, the Arab Ombudsman Network, the European Mediation Network Initiative, the Pacific Ombudsman Alliance, the Eurasian Ombudsman Alliance, and other active Ombudsman and mediator associations and networks,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[643]

2. *Strongly encourages* Member States:

(a) To consider the creation or the strengthening of independent and autonomous Ombudsman and mediator institutions at the national level and, where applicable, at the regional or local level, consistent with the principles on the protection and promotion of the Ombudsman institution (the Venice Principles), either as national human rights institutions or alongside them;

(b) To endow Ombudsman and mediator institutions, where they exist, with the necessary constitutional and legislative framework, as well as State support and protection, adequate financial allocation for staffing and other budgetary needs, a broad mandate across all public services, the powers necessary to ensure that they have the tools they need to select issues, resolve maladministration, investigate thoroughly and communicate results, and all other appropriate means, in order to ensure the efficient and independent exercise of their mandate and to strengthen the

[643] A/77/248.

legitimacy and credibility of their actions as mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights and the promotion of good governance and respect for the rule of law;

(c) Where they exist, to take the appropriate steps to ensure that the means of appointment of the Ombudsman or mediator respect the full independence and State recognition of, as well as respect for, the Ombudsman and mediator institutions and their work;

(d) To provide for the clear mandate of Ombudsman and mediator institutions, where they exist, to enable the prevention and appropriate resolution of any unfairness and maladministration and the promotion and protection of human rights, and to report on their activities, as may be appropriate, both generally and on specific issues;

(e) To ensure that the Ombudsman and mediator institutions and their staff have appropriate protections from unwarranted and arbitrary abuses of legal process in respect of matters carried out in connection with their lawful duties and obligations;

(f) To take the appropriate steps to ensure that adequate protection exists for Ombudsman and mediator institutions, where they exist, against coercion, reprisals, intimidation or threat, including from other authorities, and that these acts are promptly and duly investigated and the perpetrators held accountable;

(g) To give due consideration to the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles)[644] when assigning to the Ombudsman or the mediator institution the role of national preventive mechanisms and national monitoring mechanisms;

(h) To develop and conduct, as appropriate, outreach activities at the national level, in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, in order to raise awareness of the important role of Ombudsman and mediator institutions;

(i) To share and exchange best practices on the work and functioning of their Ombudsman and mediator institutions, in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and with the International Ombudsman Institute and other international and regional Ombudsman organizations;

3. *Recognizes* that, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, it is the right of each State to choose the framework for national institutions, including those of the Ombudsman and the mediator, which is best suited to its particular needs at the national level, in order to promote human rights in accordance with international human rights instruments;

4. *Encourages* Member States to ensure adequate protection for their respective Ombudsman and mediator institutions against coercion, reprisals, intimidation or threat;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to ensure that adequate funding is provided to their respective Ombudsman and mediator institutions to enable them to discharge their mandates in an independent and efficient manner;

6. *Recognizes* that the practical effectiveness of the chosen framework for such national institutions should be monitored and assessed, consistent with internationally accepted and recognized standards, and that this framework should neither threaten the autonomy nor the independence of the institution nor diminish its ability to carry out its mandate;

7. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Office of the High Commissioner in all international and regional meetings of Ombudsman and mediator institutions, whether in person or, alternatively, by electronic means;

8. *Encourages* Member States and regional and international Ombudsman and mediator institutions to regularly interact, exchange information and share best practices with the Office of the High Commissioner on all matters of relevance;

9. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner, through its advisory services, to develop and support activities dedicated to the existing Ombudsman and mediator institutions and to strengthen their role within national systems for human rights protection;

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[644] Resolution 48/134, annex.

10. *Encourages* Ombudsman and mediator institutions, where they exist:

(a) To operate, as appropriate, in accordance with all relevant international instruments, including the Paris Principles and the Venice Principles, in order to strengthen their independence and autonomy and to enhance their capacity to assist Member States in the promotion and protection of human rights and the promotion of good governance and respect for the rule of law;

(b) To request, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, their accreditation by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, where the Ombudsman or mediator institution is the national human rights institution, in order to enable them to interact effectively with the relevant human rights bodies of the United Nations system;

(c) To publicly report, in the interests of accountability and transparency, to the authority that appoints the Ombudsman or the mediator of Member States on their activities at least annually;

(d) To cooperate with relevant State bodies and develop cooperation with civil society organizations, without compromising their autonomy or independence;

(e) To conduct awareness-raising activities on their roles and functions, in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders;

(f) To engage with the International Ombudsman Institute, the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions and other regional networks and associations, with a view to exchanging experiences, lessons learned and best practices;

11. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to hold, within existing resources, during the seventy-eighth session, a high-level panel on the theme "Public accessibility and inclusivity: developing strategic initiatives to raise awareness on the role and work of Ombudsman and mediator institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights, good governance and the rule of law" and prepare a summary of the discussion for transmission to all Member States;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on the obstacles encountered by Member States in this regard, and on best practices in the work and functioning of Ombudsman and mediator institutions, as well as on solutions to promote the role and work of Ombudsman and mediator institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights, good governance and the rule of law.

RESOLUTION 77/225

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.2, para. 87)[645]

77/225. Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the commitment made by all States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to, inter alia, religion or belief,

[645] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Central African Republic, Congo, Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Japan, Peru, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Welcoming Human Rights Council resolutions 16/18 of 24 March 2011,[646] 19/25 of 23 March 2012,[647] 22/31 of 22 March 2013,[648] 28/29 of 27 March 2015,[649] 31/26 of 24 March 2016,[650] 34/32 of 24 March 2017,[651] 37/38 of 23 March 2018,[652] 40/25 of 22 March 2019,[653] 43/34 of 22 June 2020,[654] 46/27 of 24 March 2021[655] and 49/31 of 1 April 2022,[656] and General Assembly resolutions 67/178 of 20 December 2012, 68/169 of 18 December 2013, 69/174 of 18 December 2014, 70/157 of 17 December 2015, 71/195 of 19 December 2016, 72/176 of 19 December 2017, 73/164 of 17 December 2018, 74/164 of 18 December 2019, 75/187 of 16 December 2020 and 76/157 of 16 December 2021,

Reaffirming the obligation of States to prohibit discrimination and violence on the basis of religion or belief and to implement measures to guarantee the equal and effective protection of the law,

Reaffirming also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Reaffirming further that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[657] provides, inter alia, that everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, and to manifest one's religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching,

Reaffirming the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information can play in strengthening democracy and combating religious intolerance, and reaffirming further that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression carries with it special duties and responsibilities, in accordance with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

Expressing deep concern at those acts that advocate religious hatred and thereby undermine the spirit of tolerance and respect for diversity,

Reaffirming that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Condemning the criminal acts committed by terrorist and extremist groups and movements against persons based on their religion or belief, and deeply regretting attempts to link such acts to any one specific religion or belief,

Reaffirming that violence can never be an acceptable response to acts of intolerance on the basis of religion or belief,

Recalling its adoption of resolutions 69/140 of 15 December 2014, 70/19 of 3 December 2015, 71/249 of 22 December 2016, 72/136 of 11 December 2017, 73/129 of 12 December 2018, 74/23 of 12 December 2019, 75/26 of 2 December 2020 and 76/69 of 9 December 2021 on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace, 69/312 of 6 July 2015 on the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and 67/104 of 17 December 2012, in which the General Assembly proclaimed the period 2013–2022 as the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures,

Deeply concerned about continuing incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against persons based on their religion or belief in all regions of the world,

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[646] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. II, sect. A.

[647] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and A/67/53/Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[648] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[649] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. III, sect. A.

[650] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[651] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[652] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/73/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[653] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/74/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[654] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/75/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[655] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/76/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[656] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. VI, sect. A.

[657] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Deploring any advocacy of discrimination or violence on the basis of religion or belief,

Strongly deploring all acts of violence against persons on the basis of their religion or belief, as well as any such acts directed against their homes, businesses, properties, schools, cultural centres or places of worship,

Strongly deploring also all attacks on and in religious places, sites and shrines, which are in violation of international law, in particular human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

Deeply concerned about the prevalence of impunity in some instances, and the lack of accountability in some cases, in addressing violence against persons on the basis of religion or belief in public and private spheres, and stressing the importance of making the necessary efforts to raise awareness to address the spread of hate speech against persons on the basis of religion or belief,

Concerned about actions that wilfully exploit tensions or target individuals on the basis of their religion or belief, in particular actions that seek to prevent their exercise and full enjoyment of freedom of religion or belief,

Expressing deep concern at the instances of intolerance and discrimination and acts of violence occurring in the world, including cases motivated by discrimination against persons belonging to religious minorities, in addition to the negative projection of the followers of religions and the enforcement of measures that specifically discriminate against persons on the basis of religion or belief,

Expressing concern at the growing manifestations of intolerance based on religion or belief, which can generate hatred and violence among individuals from and within different nations and which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of respect for religious and cultural diversity, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue aimed at promoting a culture of tolerance and respect among individuals, societies and nations,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of people of all religions or beliefs to humanity and the contribution that dialogue among religious groups can make towards an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

Underlining the fact that States, regional organizations, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

Underlining also the importance of raising awareness about different cultures and religions or beliefs and of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for religious and cultural diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining further the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Underlining further that educational measures, youth forums, strategic plans and public information and media campaigns, including online platforms, may contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief,

Recognizing that working together to enhance the implementation of existing legal regimes that protect individuals against discrimination and hate crimes, increasing interreligious, interfaith and intercultural efforts and expanding human rights education are important first steps in combating incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against individuals on the basis of religion or belief,

Recalling its resolution 72/241, entitled "A world against violence and violent extremism", adopted by consensus on 20 December 2017, welcoming the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in promoting intercultural dialogue, the work of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, the work of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for the Dialogue between Cultures in Alexandria, Egypt, and the work of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna, and recalling also its resolution 65/5 of 20 October 2010 on World Interfaith Harmony Week, proposed by King Abdullah II of Jordan,

Welcoming in this regard all international, regional and national initiatives aimed at promoting interreligious, intercultural and interfaith harmony and combating discrimination against individuals on the basis of religion or belief, and recalling the initiative of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide on the role of religious leaders in preventing incitement that could lead to atrocity crimes and the declaration of its forum held in Fez, Morocco, on 23 and 24 April 2015, the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief, the announcement on 6 October 2016 of the establishment by the United Arab Emirates of the International Institute for Tolerance for promoting the value of tolerance among nations, the Amman Declaration on Youth, Peace and Security adopted on 22 August 2015 and the sixth Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, held in Nur-Sultan on 10 and 11 October 2018, as well as the initiative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and its outcome document, the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, adopted in Rabat on 5 October 2012,[658]

Taking note with appreciation of the continuation of the organization of workshops and meetings within the framework of the Istanbul Process and the promotion of effective implementation of Human Rights Council resolution 16/18 to counter global violence, religious discrimination and intolerance, in particular the sixth implementation meeting of the Process, hosted by Singapore on 20 and 21 July 2016,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[659]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the continued serious instances of derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief, as well as programmes and agendas pursued by extremist individuals, organizations and groups aimed at creating and perpetuating negative stereotypes about religious groups, in particular when condoned by Governments;

3. *Expresses concern* that the number of incidents of religious intolerance, discrimination and related violence, as well as of negative stereotyping of individuals on the basis of religion or belief, continues to rise around the world, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, condemns, in this context, any advocacy of religious hatred against individuals that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and urges States to take effective measures, as set forth in the present resolution and consistent with their obligations under international human rights law, to address and combat such incidents;

4. *Condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

5. *Recognizes* that the open public debate of ideas, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national and international levels, can be among the best protections against religious intolerance and can play a positive role in strengthening democracy and combating religious hatred, and expresses its conviction that a continuing dialogue on these issues can help to overcome existing misperceptions;

6. *Also recognizes* the strong need for global awareness about the possible serious implications of incitement to discrimination and violence, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and urges all Member States to make renewed efforts to develop educational systems that promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms that enhance tolerance for religious and cultural diversity, which is fundamental to promoting tolerant, peaceful and harmonious multicultural societies;

7. *Calls upon* all States to take the following actions, as called for by the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, to foster a domestic environment of religious tolerance, peace and respect by:

(a) Encouraging the creation of collaborative networks to build mutual understanding, promoting dialogue and inspiring constructive action towards shared policy goals and the pursuit of tangible outcomes, such as servicing projects in the fields of education, health, conflict prevention, employment, integration and media education;

(b) Creating an appropriate mechanism within Governments to, inter alia, identify and address potential areas of tension between members of different religious communities and assisting with conflict prevention and mediation;

[658] A/HRC/22/17/Add.4, appendix.

[659] A/77/487.

(c) Encouraging the training of government officials in effective outreach strategies;

(d) Encouraging the efforts of leaders to discuss within their communities the causes of discrimination and developing strategies to counter those causes;

(e) Speaking out against intolerance, including advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence;

(f) Adopting measures to criminalize incitement to imminent violence based on religion or belief;

(g) Understanding the need to combat denigration and the negative religious stereotyping of persons, as well as incitement to religious hatred, by strategizing and harmonizing actions at the local, national, regional and international levels through, inter alia, education and awareness-raising;

(h) Recognizing that the open, constructive and respectful debate of ideas, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national, regional and international levels, can play a positive role in combating religious hatred, incitement and violence;

8. *Also calls upon* all States:

(a) To take effective measures to ensure that public functionaries, in the conduct of their public duties, do not discriminate against individuals on the basis of religion or belief;

(b) To foster religious freedom and pluralism by promoting the ability of members of all religious communities to manifest their religion and to contribute openly and on an equal footing to society;

(c) To encourage the representation and meaningful participation of individuals, irrespective of their religion or belief, in all sectors of society;

(d) To make a strong effort to counter religious profiling, which is understood to be the invidious use of religion as a criterion in conducting questioning, searches and other investigative law enforcement procedures;

9. *Further calls upon* all States to adopt measures and policies to promote full respect for and protection of places of worship and religious sites, cemeteries and shrines and to take protective measures in cases where they are vulnerable to vandalism or destruction;

10. *Calls for* strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue for the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religions and beliefs;

11. *Encourages* all States to consider providing updates on efforts made in this regard as part of ongoing reporting to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this respect requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to include those updates in his reports to the Human Rights Council;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report that includes information provided by the High Commissioner on steps taken by States to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief, as set forth in the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/226

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.3, para. 29)[660]

[660] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

77/226. Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to respect, protect and fulfil human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments,

Recalling all previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including Assembly resolution 76/177 of 16 December 2021 and Council resolution 49/22 of 1 April 2022,[661] and mindful of the need for the international community to strengthen its coordinated efforts aimed at achieving the implementation of those resolutions,

Deeply concerned at the grave human rights situation, the pervasive culture of impunity and the lack of accountability for human rights violations and abuses in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Reiterating the importance of following up on the recommendations contained in the report of the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[662] and reiterating also its grave concern at the detailed findings contained therein,

Recalling the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[663] regretting that the previous Special Rapporteur was not allowed to visit the country and that he received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and taking note also of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted in accordance with resolution 76/177,[664]

Mindful that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[665] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[666] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[667] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[668] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[669] and urging full implementation of these Conventions and of the recommendations contained in the concluding observations from treaty body reviews and the submission of all overdue periodic reports to the respective treaty bodies,

Encouraging the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement the recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of persons with disabilities on her visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in May 2017, submitted to the Council at its thirty-seventh session,[670]

Stressing the importance of extending the cooperation of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to other United Nations special procedures and human rights mechanisms, in particular to use the opportunity to engage with the new Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in accordance with their terms of reference,

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[661] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[662] A/HRC/25/63.

[663] A/77/522.

[664] A/77/247.

[665] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[666] Ibid.

[667] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[668] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[669] Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[670] A/HRC/37/56/Add.1.

Recalling the participation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the third universal periodic review process, noting the acceptance by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of 132 of the 262 recommendations,[671] and encouraging the Government to implement these recommendations in good faith,

Noting with regret that independent civil society organizations cannot operate in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and that, as a result, no civil society organization based in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is able to independently monitor, document and report on human rights violations in the country,

Recalling the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in providing human rights education to a small number of government officials in Geneva in May 2019, and urging that such technical cooperation be broadened, including through virtual meetings,

Stressing the importance of extending the cooperation of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the field-based structure of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the region,

Noting the cooperation between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization in order to improve the health situation in the country, including communication with the World Health Organization on addressing the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the delivery of COVID-19 vaccines to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Noting also the activities undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme, on a modest scale, in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea prior to the withdrawal of international staff, and encouraging the engagement of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the international community to ensure that the programmes benefit persons in need of assistance and continue to be implemented even within the context of measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19,

Noting further the cooperation between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on a number of assessments, underscoring the importance of those assessments in analysing changes in the national, household and individual situations with regard to food security, nutrition, health, water and sanitation, thereby supporting confidence in the targeting and monitoring of aid programmes, and noting with appreciation the work of international aid operators,

Stressing the importance of granting immediate access to the country for humanitarian agencies, especially given the prevalence of malnutrition and the need to continue to respond to COVID-19 and the necessity for international humanitarian aid organizations to be able to carry out independent needs assessments and implement their humanitarian programmes consistent with international standards and humanitarian principles, including in areas with no operational presence, as well as the need for full, safe, rapid and unhindered access for humanitarian organizations to provide assistance to persons in the most vulnerable situations, including individuals in detention, and persons with disabilities, including through the entry of international staff and the prioritization of the shipment of life-saving humanitarian assistance, in accordance with guidance and best practice provided by the World Health Organization,

Noting with concern the findings of the United Nations in the humanitarian report entitled "Democratic People's Republic of Korea 2020: needs and priorities" and the joint rapid food security assessments conducted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Food Programme and their calls to address the critical humanitarian needs in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Condemning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for diverting its resources into pursuing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles over the welfare of its people, and emphasizing the necessity for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect and ensure the welfare and inherent dignity of the people in the country, as referred to by the Security Council in its resolutions 2321 (2016) of 30 November 2016, 2371 (2017) of 5 August 2017, 2375 (2017) of 11 September 2017 and 2397 (2017) of 22 December 2017,

[671] A/HRC/42/10.

Noting with grave concern the exacerbation of the humanitarian situation and the adverse impact on the human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of measures taken following the global outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, and stressing that any restrictions to address the COVID-19 pandemic and the national outbreak announced in May 2022 must be necessary, proportionate, non-discriminatory, time-bound and strictly in line with international law, including international human rights law, and with relevant Security Council resolutions,

Noting with concern the government restrictions that have compelled the international staff of humanitarian agencies to leave the country and suspend assistance projects and the effect that these restrictions may have had on the levels of malnutrition and access to health services, water and sanitation,

Taking note of the ongoing strategic framework for cooperation between the United Nations and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Government's commitment in accordance with the principles, goals and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals[672] and in line with its commitments to international agreements and conventions,

Stressing again with grave concern the urgency and importance of the issue of international abductions, which involves a serious violation of human rights, and of the immediate return of all abductees, as they and their family members age, expressing grave concern at the long years of severe suffering experienced by abductees and their families, and the lack of any concrete or positive action by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, notably since the investigations on all the Japanese nationals commenced on the basis of the government-level consultations held between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan in May 2014 and the identical and non-substantive replies by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the numerous communications transmitted by the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, and strongly demanding again that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sincerely listen to the voices of the victims and their families to address all allegations of enforced disappearances, clarify the fate and whereabouts of disappeared persons and faithfully provide accurate and detailed information to the families of the victims, and resolve immediately all issues related to all abductees, in particular the realization of the immediate return of all abductees of Japan and the Republic of Korea,

Noting with concern the allegations of continued violations of the human rights of unrepatriated prisoners of war and their descendants,

Stressing the urgency and importance of the issue of separated families, including affected Koreans worldwide, and in this regard urging the resumption of the reunions of separated families across the border, including the implementation of the commitments made on this issue at the inter-Korean summit held on 19 September 2018 to strengthen humanitarian cooperation to fundamentally resolve the issue of separated families and allow permanent regular reunions and contact between separated families, including through meetings at an easily accessible location and regular facility, regular written correspondence, video reunions and the exchange of video messages, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions,

Welcoming efforts undertaken by Member States so far, encouraging further efforts to raise international awareness about the human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and noting that human rights, including gender equality, are intrinsically linked to peace and security,

Encouraging diplomatic efforts, and stressing the importance of dialogue and engagement, including inter-Korean dialogue, to seek improvement of the human rights and the humanitarian situation in the country,

Welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General to contribute to improving inter-Korean relations and promoting reconciliation and stability on the Korean Peninsula and the well-being of the Korean people,

1. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the long-standing and ongoing systematic, widespread and gross violations of human rights in and by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including those that may amount to crimes against humanity according to the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 22/13 of 21 March 2013,[673] and those identified by the group of independent experts on accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's

[672] See resolution 70/1.

[673] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

Republic of Korea,[674] established pursuant to Council resolution 31/18 of 23 March 2016,[675] and by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights during its ongoing monitoring and documentation work, and the continuing impunity for such violations;

2. *Expresses its very serious concern* about:

(a) The persistence of continuing reports of violations of human rights, including the detailed findings made by the commission of inquiry in its report, by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in its ongoing monitoring and documentation work and by the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, such as:

(i) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including inhuman conditions of detention; all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including rape, in particular against women and girls; extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions; the imposition of the death penalty for political and religious reasons; public executions; extrajudicial and arbitrary detention; the absence of due process and the rule of law, including fair trial guarantees and an independent judiciary; collective punishments extending up to three generations; and the extensive use of forced labour, including of children;

(ii) The existence of an extensive system of political prison camps, where a vast number of persons are deprived of their liberty and subjected to deplorable conditions, including forced labour, and where alarming violations of human rights are perpetrated;

(iii) Enforced and involuntary disappearances of persons by arrest, detention or abduction against their will; refusal to disclose the fate and whereabouts of the persons concerned; and refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of their liberty, which places such persons subjected thereto outside the protection of the law and which has had the effect of inflicting severe suffering on them and their families;

(iv) The forcible transfer of populations and the limitations imposed on persons wishing to move freely within the country and travel abroad, including harming or punishing those who leave or try to leave the country without permission, or their families, as well as punishment of persons who are returned;

(v) The situation of refugees and asylum-seekers expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including where the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea exerts pressure on returning States to effectuate such returns, and retaliations against citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have been repatriated from abroad, leading to punishments of internment, torture, other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, sexual and gender-based violence or the death penalty, and in this regard strongly urges all States to respect the fundamental principle of non-refoulement, including where the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea exerts pressure on returning States to effectuate such returns, to treat those who seek refuge humanely and to ensure unhindered access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office, with a view to protecting the human rights of those who seek refuge, and once again urges States parties to comply with their obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[676] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[677] in relation to refugees from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are covered by those instruments;

(vi) All-pervasive and severe restrictions, further tightened by the COVID-19 prevention measures, both online and offline, on the freedoms of thought, conscience, religion or belief, opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association, the right to privacy and equal access to information, by such means as the unlawful and arbitrary surveillance, persecution, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, imprisonment and, in some instances, summary executions of individuals exercising their freedom of opinion and expression, religion or belief, and their families, and the right of everyone, including women, to fully, equally and meaningfully take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives, of their country;

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[674] See A/HRC/34/66/Add.1.

[675] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[676] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[677] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

(vii) Violations of economic, social and cultural rights, exacerbated by the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the continued closure by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of its borders, which have led to food insecurity, severe hunger, malnutrition, widespread health problems and other hardship for the population in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in particular for women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and political prisoners;

(viii) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls, including unequal access to employment and discriminatory regulations; as well as, in particular, the creation of internal conditions that force women and girls to leave the country, making them extremely vulnerable to trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labour, domestic servitude or forced marriage, and their subjection to sexual and gender-based discrimination, including in the political and social spheres, as well as in detention, including through forced abortions and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence;

(ix) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children, in particular the continued lack of access to basic economic, social and cultural rights for many children, and in this regard notes the particularly vulnerable situation faced by, inter alia, returned or repatriated children, children without housing, children with disabilities, children whose parents are detained, deceased or otherwise absent, children living in detention or in institutions and children in conflict with the law;

(x) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, especially violations involving the use of collective camps and coercive measures that target the rights of persons with disabilities to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and allegations of the possible use of persons with disabilities in medical testing, forced relocation to rural areas and separation of children with disabilities from their parents;

(xi) Violations of workers' rights, including the right to freedom of association and effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, the right to strike as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the prohibition of the economic exploitation of children and of any harmful or hazardous work of children as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as the exploitation of workers sent abroad from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to work under conditions that reportedly amount to forced labour, and emphasizing in this context the importance of the full implementation of the requirement that nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea earning income overseas be repatriated, subject to applicable national and international law, as soon as possible pursuant to paragraph 8 of Security Council resolution 2397 (2017), the provision of final reports as soon as possible pursuant to the same and the prohibition on providing work authorizations pursuant to paragraph 17 of resolution 2375 (2017), and urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to promote, respect and protect the human rights of workers, including workers repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(xii) Discrimination based on the *songbun* system, which classifies people on the basis of State-assigned social class and birth and also includes consideration of political opinions and religion;

(xiii) Violence and discrimination against women, including unequal access to employment and discriminatory laws and regulations;

(b) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to extend an invitation to the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or to extend cooperation to the Special Rapporteur and several other United Nations special procedures, in accordance with their terms of reference, as well as to other United Nations human rights mechanisms;

(c) The continued lack of acknowledgement by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of the grave human rights situation in the country and its consequential lack of action to report on the state of

implementation of the recommendations contained in the outcome of its first,[678] second[679] and third[680] universal periodic reviews and to give consideration to the concluding observations of the treaty bodies;

3. *Condemns* the systematic abduction, denial of repatriation and subsequent enforced disappearance of persons, including those from other countries, on a large scale and as a matter of State policy, and in this regard strongly calls upon the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to engage in constructive dialogues with the parties concerned and to urgently resolve these issues of international grave concern, in good faith and with transparency in a transparent manner, including by ensuring the realization of the immediate return of all abductees;

4. *Underscores its very serious concern* regarding reports of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, summary executions, arbitrary detention, abductions and other forms of human rights violations and abuses that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea commits against citizens of other countries within and outside of its territory, and urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to disclose all relevant information to bereaved families and relevant entities;

5. *Expresses its very deep concern* about the prevalence of chronic and acute malnutrition, in particular among persons in the most vulnerable situations, including pregnant and lactating women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and prisoners, including political prisoners, which is exacerbated by a lack of access to basic services, including health care, clean water, sanitation and hygiene services, structural weaknesses in agricultural production that result in shortages of diversified food, limitations in the capacity of the Government to respond to natural disasters and government policies that limit access to and availability of adequate food, including through restrictions on the cultivation of and trade in foodstuffs and the closure of the border, and urges the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in this regard, to take preventive and remedial action, including by cooperating with international donor and humanitarian agencies and allowing them access to people in vulnerable situations in order to implement humanitarian assistance programmes, monitored in a manner consistent with international standards;

6. *Welcomes* the latest report to the Human Rights Council of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[681] including the efforts to uphold a two-track approach of engagement and accountability, given the need for a comprehensive approach;

7. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the report of the group of independent experts on accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[682] established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 31/18, including options to seek accountability and secure truth and justice for all victims;

8. *Welcomes* the latest report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights[683] on steps taken pursuant to Human Rights Council resolutions 34/24 of 24 March 2017[684] and 40/20 of 22 March 2019,[685] and also welcomes Council resolution 49/22, which continue to strengthen the capacity of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including its field-based structure in Seoul, to allow the implementation of relevant recommendations made by the group of independent experts on accountability aimed at strengthening current monitoring and documentation efforts, establishing a central repository for information and evidence and having experts in legal accountability assess all information and testimonies with a view to developing possible strategies to be used in any future accountability process;

9. *Expresses strong support* for the work being undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in furtherance of Human Rights Council resolution 49/22, with the aim of ensuring accountability for suspected violations of international law committed in and by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and calls upon all States to support such efforts;

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[678] A/HRC/13/13.

[679] A/HRC/27/10.

[680] A/HRC/42/10.

[681] A/HRC/46/51.

[682] A/HRC/34/66/Add.1.

[683] A/HRC/46/52.

[684] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[685] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/74/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

10. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the work of the commission of inquiry and acknowledges the importance of its report and the finding that the body of testimony gathered and the information received provide reasonable grounds to believe that crimes against humanity have been committed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, pursuant to policies established at the highest level of the State for decades and by institutions under the effective control of its leadership, which was confirmed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in her report to the Human Rights Council submitted pursuant to resolutions 34/24 and 40/20;

11. *Expresses its concern* at the failure of the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to hold accountable those responsible for human rights violations, including violations which the commission of inquiry has said may amount to crimes against humanity, and encourages the international community to cooperate with accountability efforts and to ensure that such crimes do not remain unpunished;

12. *Encourages* the Security Council to continue its consideration of the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the commission of inquiry and take appropriate action to ensure accountability, including through consideration of referral of the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the International Criminal Court and consideration of further sanctions in order to target effectively those who appear to be most responsible for human rights violations that the commission has said may constitute crimes against humanity;

13. *Also encourages* the Security Council to immediately resume discussion on the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and invite the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to give a briefing to the Council, including on the country's human rights situation, in the light of the serious concerns expressed in the present resolution, and looks forward to its continued and more active engagement on this matter;

14. *Encourages* the continuing endeavours of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including through its field-based structure in Seoul, in developing a central repository to consolidate the information and evidence relating to suspected violations of international law, and assessing all such evidence and information in order to develop possible strategies to be used in any future accountability process, and also encourages the cooperation of the Office with a wide range of stakeholders in the procurement of evidence that could be used in future criminal proceedings;

15. *Calls upon* Member States to undertake to ensure that the field-based structure of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights can function with independence, has sufficient resources and support to fulfil its mandate, enjoys full cooperation with relevant Member States and is not subjected to any reprisals or threats;

16. *Also calls upon* Member States to continue to support the strengthening of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including its field-based structure in Seoul, to allow the implementation of relevant recommendations made by the group of independent experts on accountability in its report and in accordance with Human Rights Council resolutions 34/24, 40/20, 46/17 of 23 March 2021[686] and 49/22 aimed at strengthening monitoring and documentation efforts, establishing a central information and evidence repository and having experts in legal accountability assess all information and testimonies with a view to developing possible strategies to be used in any future accountability process;

17. *Further calls upon* Member States to engage with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the development of strategies for future accountability processes and undertake, where possible, the investigation and prosecution of persons suspected of committing international crimes in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in accordance with international law;

18. *Strongly urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect, protect and fulfil all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, in this regard:

(a) To immediately put an end to the systematic, widespread and grave violations and abuses of human rights emphasized above, inter alia, by implementing fully the measures set out in the above-mentioned resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, and the recommendations addressed to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the Council in the context of the universal periodic review and by the commission of inquiry, the United Nations special procedures and treaty bodies;

[686] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/76/53), chap. V, sect. A.

(b) To immediately close the political prison camps and to release all political prisoners unconditionally and without any delay, and to immediately conduct a comprehensive review of conditions in detention facilities and take steps to ensure that conditions in those facilities are in compliance with relevant obligations and commitments relating to the humane treatment of persons in detention, as outlined in the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules);[687]

(c) To immediately cease the use of torture and other cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment or punishment, including in places of detention;

(d) To protect its inhabitants, address the issue of impunity and ensure that those responsible for crimes involving violations and abuses of human rights are brought to justice before an independent judiciary;

(e) To tackle the root causes leading to outflows of migrants and refugees and to prosecute, in trials that meet international human rights standards for fair trial, those involved in migrant smuggling, trafficking in human beings and extortion, while not criminalizing the victims of trafficking, and ensure that repatriated women who are victims of trafficking receive appropriate support and are not punished, sent to labour camps or prisons or otherwise deprived of their liberty;

(f) To ensure that everyone within the territory of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea enjoys the right to freedom of movement and is free to leave the country, including for the purpose of seeking asylum outside the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, without interference by the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(g) To ensure that citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are able to return in safety and dignity, are treated humanely and are not subjected to any kind of human rights violations, including enforced disappearances, arbitrary executions, torture and ill-treatment and trials that do not conform with international fair trial guarantees, and to provide information on their status and treatment;

(h) To provide citizens of other countries detained in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with protections, including freedom of communication with, and access to, consular officers in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,[688] to which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party, and any other necessary arrangements to confirm their status and to communicate with their families;

(i) To extend its full cooperation to the new Special Rapporteur, including by granting her full, free and unimpeded access to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to other special procedures of the Human Rights Council, as well as to other United Nations human rights mechanisms, so that a full assessment of the human rights situation may be made;

(j) To extend an invitation to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to visit the country;

(k) To engage in technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and his Office, including the field-based structure in the region, as pursued by the previous High Commissioner in recent years, with a view to improving the situation of human rights in the country;

(l) To implement the accepted recommendations stemming from the universal periodic reviews and to submit a midterm voluntary report to detail progress on the implementation of recommendations accepted from the third cycle;

(m) To become a member of the International Labour Organization, to enact legislation and adopt practices to comply with international labour standards and to consider ratifying all the relevant conventions, in particular the core labour conventions of the International Labour Organization;

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[687] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[688] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

(n) To continue and reinforce its cooperation with United Nations humanitarian agencies, including by allowing for the return of international and humanitarian staff;

(o) To ensure full, safe and unhindered access to persons in need of humanitarian aid, and take measures to allow humanitarian agencies to survey the needs of persons belonging to vulnerable groups, to obtain critical baseline data and to enable the unhindered and impartial delivery of such humanitarian aid to all parts of the country, on the basis of need in accordance with humanitarian principles, as it pledged to do, to furthermore ensure access to adequate basic services and implement more effective food security and nutrition policies, including through sustainable agriculture, sound food production and distribution measures and the allocation of more funds to the food sector, to allow adequate monitoring of humanitarian assistance and to allow humanitarian organizations to carry out their activities in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic;

(p) To cooperate with the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator initiative and its COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility and relevant bodies and to respond constructively to offers of assistance to ensure the timely delivery and equitable distribution of sufficient vaccine doses, recognizing that access to vaccines is an essential dimension of everyone's right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including as it relates to a Government taking requisite actions for the entry of international staff and the prioritization of the shipment of life-saving humanitarian assistance, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions and in a manner consistent with guidance and best practice provided by the World Health Organization;

(q) To further improve cooperation with the United Nations country team members and development agencies so that they can directly contribute to improving the living conditions of the civilian population, including progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(r) To consider ratifying and acceding to the remaining international human rights treaties, which would enable a dialogue with the human rights treaty bodies, to resume reporting to monitoring bodies on treaties to which it is a party, to participate meaningfully in treaty body reviews, and to give consideration to the concluding observations of such bodies in order to improve the human rights situation in the country;

19. *Urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement the recommendations of the commission of inquiry, the group of independent experts and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights without delay;

20. *Reiterates* the importance of maintaining high on the international agenda the grave human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including through sustained communications, advocacy and outreach initiatives, and requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen those activities;

21. *Encourages* all Member States that engage in dialogue with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to continue to advocate for the establishment of lasting peace and security in the Korean Peninsula and to address the human rights situation;

22. *Encourages* all Member States, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Secretariat, relevant specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and forums, civil society organizations, foundations and engaged business enterprises and other stakeholders towards which the commission of inquiry has directed recommendations to implement or take forward those recommendations, and to also support efforts aimed at resuming and improving dialogue, including inter-Korean dialogue, on the humanitarian and human rights situation, including international abductions, in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations system as a whole to continue to address the grave human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a coordinated and unified manner;

24. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations programmes, funds, specialized agencies and other related organizations to assist the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the implementation of recommendations stemming from the United Nations human rights mechanisms, including the universal periodic reviews, human rights treaty body reviews and the report of the commission of inquiry;

25. *Calls upon* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to engage constructively with international interlocutors with a view to promoting concrete improvements in the human rights situation on the ground, including

through human rights dialogues, official visits to the country that include adequate access to fully assess human rights conditions, cooperation initiatives and more people-to-people contact as a matter of priority;

26. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at its seventy-eighth session, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and requests the Special Rapporteur to continue to report her findings and recommendations, as well as to report on the follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations of the commission of inquiry.

RESOLUTION 77/227

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.3, para. 29)[689]

77/227. Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[690] the International Covenants on Human Rights[691] and other relevant international law and human rights law instruments,

Recalling that States have the primary responsibility to respect, protect and fulfil human rights,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the most recent of which being resolutions 76/180 of 16 December 2021, 75/287 of 18 June 2021, 75/238 of 31 December 2020, 74/246 of 27 December 2019, 73/264 of 22 December 2018 and 72/248 of 24 December 2017, and recalling the resolutions and decisions of the Human Rights Council, the most recent of which being resolutions 50/3 of 7 July 2022,[692] 49/23 of 1 April 2022,[693] 47/1 of 12 July 2021,[694] 46/21 of 24 March 2021,[695] S-29/1 of 12 February 2021,[696] 43/26 of 22 June 2020,[697] 42/3 of 26 September 2019,[698] 39/2 of 27 September 2018,[699] 37/32 of 23 March 2018[700] and S-27/1 of 5 December 2017,[701] the presidential statements issued by the Security Council on 6 November 2017[702] and 10 March 2021,[703] and the press statements of the Security Council on the situation in Myanmar of 9 May 2018,[704] 4 February 2021[705] and 1 and 30 April 2021, as well as Security Council resolution 2467 (2019) of 23 April 2019,

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[689] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[690] Resolution 217 A (III).

[691] Resolution 2200 A (XXI).

[692] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. VIII, sect. A.

[693] Ibid., chap. VI, sect. A.

[694] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/76/53), chap. VII, sect. A.

[695] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[696] Ibid., chap. IV.

[697] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/75/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[698] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/74/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[699] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/73/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[700] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53* (A/73/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[701] Ibid., chap. III.

[702] S/PRST/2017/22; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2017* (S/INF/72).

[703] S/PRST/2021/5.

[704] SC/13331.

[705] SC/14430.

Condemning in the strongest terms all violations and abuses of human rights against civilians, including Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar, including before and following the unjustified declaration of the state of emergency on 1 February 2021 and its later extension,

Expressing its concern that recent developments resulting from the declaration of the state of emergency by the Myanmar military pose serious challenges to the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of forcibly displaced Rohingya Muslims and all internally displaced persons,

Condemning in the strongest terms the arbitrary detention, arrest and politically motivated convictions, sentencing and executions, including of opposition activists, as well as violent acts including extrajudicial killings, sexual and gender-based violence, and torture committed against the civilian population, including medical doctors, teachers, students, lawyers, artists, journalists and many others, which exacerbates the polarization and violence and worsens the humanitarian situation in the country,

Expressing deep concern at the indiscriminate use of violence and ongoing escalation of the conflict, which seriously undermines the enjoyment of human rights of civilians in Myanmar, especially those of women, children and older persons, as well as those of persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, including Rohingya Muslims, owing to the heavy militarization of Myanmar aggravated by the continued access to arms,

Underlining the urgency for the Myanmar military to end all acts of violence without further delay and to unconditionally and immediately release all those arbitrarily detained,

Expressing its unequivocal support for the people of Myanmar and their democratic will and interests, as well as for the need to rebuild and strengthen democratic institutions and processes, to refrain from violence and arbitrary detentions and to respect fully human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law,

Welcoming the work of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar, and encouraging her to continue her engagement and inclusive dialogue with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society and affected populations, in particular women and youth, and urging the Myanmar military to extend full cooperation with the Special Envoy,

Welcoming also the work and the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, while deeply regretting the non-cooperation of the Myanmar military with the mandate, and urging them to extend full cooperation to the Special Rapporteur,

Welcoming further the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the root causes of the human rights violations and abuses Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar are facing,[706] and reiterating the importance of fully implementing the recommendations contained in the report,

Recalling the work done by the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar, including its final report[707] and all its other reports, including the reports on the economic interests of the Myanmar military and on sexual and gender-based violence in Myanmar and the gendered impact of its ethnic conflicts, and furthermore deeply regretting the lack of cooperation of Myanmar with the fact-finding mission,

Alarmed by the findings of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar of evidence of the most serious human rights violations and abuses suffered by Rohingya Muslims and other minorities, perpetrated by the security and armed forces of Myanmar, which, according to the fact-finding mission, undoubtedly amount to the gravest crimes under international law,

Expressing deep concern at the limited progress on the implementation of the fact-finding mission's recommendations to conduct prompt, effective, thorough, independent and impartial investigations and to hold perpetrators accountable for crimes committed across Myanmar,

Concerned that, contrary to the fact-finding mission's recommendations, laws, orders, policies and practices at all levels limiting freedoms of movement, expression, association and assembly, or which are discriminatory in their application or impact, continue to be utilized to stifle freedom of association, speech and the press,

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[706] A/HRC/49/72.

[707] A/HRC/42/50.

Welcoming the work of the Independent Mechanism for Myanmar, established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 39/2, to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyse evidence of the most serious international crimes and violations of international law committed in Myanmar since 2011, in particular but not limited to Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States, making use of the information handed over by the independent international fact-finding mission, and to prepare files in order to facilitate and expedite fair and independent criminal proceedings, in accordance with international law standards, in national, regional or international courts or tribunals that have, or may in the future have, jurisdiction over these crimes, in accordance with international law,

Welcoming also the reports of the Independent Mechanism for Myanmar, established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 39/2, to the General Assembly, including the fourth report submitted to the General Assembly on 12 July 2022,[708] and encouraging the Mechanism to continue its efforts to advance its public outreach, in order to explain its mandate and work process to victims and other stakeholders,

Welcoming further the cooperation extended by the Government of Bangladesh with the Independent Mechanism for Myanmar, and underlining, in this regard, the call of the Mechanism to other Member States to extend full and meaningful cooperation, allowing the Mechanism to fully deliver on its mandate,

Recognizing the complementary and mutually reinforcing work of the various United Nations mandate holders and mechanisms, including international justice and accountability mechanisms working on Myanmar to improve the situation of human rights in Myanmar,

Recognizing also the importance of the role of regional organizations in efforts to achieve pacific settlement of local disputes, as stipulated in Chapter VIII of the Charter, while noting that such efforts do not preclude action under Chapter VI of the Charter,

Recognizing further the important role of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in facilitating the creation of an environment in Myanmar that is conducive to the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of forcibly displaced persons, including Rohingya Muslims, to Myanmar, and reiterating the need to work in close coordination and in full consultation with Rohingya Muslims, as well as with all relevant United Nations agencies and international partners, and to address the root causes of the crisis and displacement so that affected communities can rebuild their lives after their return to Myanmar,

Welcoming the statement made by the Chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations at its Leaders' Meeting, held on 24 April 2021 in Jakarta,[709] in which the Chair, inter alia, encouraged the Secretary-General of the Association to continue to identify possible areas that could effectively facilitate the repatriation process for displaced persons from Rakhine State, noting that these conditions are currently not met, and underscoring the importance of efforts to address the root causes of the situation in Rakhine State, and the importance of the five-point consensus of the Association, including its full and timely implementation,

Acknowledging the efforts of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, alongside relevant international efforts, aimed at bringing peace and stability to Rakhine State and other states and regions of Myanmar, including through the work of the Special Envoy for Myanmar of the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,

Underlining the importance of close coordination between the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar with all other respective envoys,

Recognizing the role of civil society in highlighting the most serious violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law in Myanmar, as relevant,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[710]

Welcoming also the ongoing processes to ensure justice and accountability in respect of alleged crimes committed against Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar,

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[708] A/HRC/51/4.

[709] A/75/868, annex.

[710] A/77/255.

Noting that the International Criminal Court has authorized its Prosecutor to investigate alleged crimes within the Court's jurisdiction related to the situation in Bangladesh/Myanmar, and welcoming the cooperation provided by Bangladesh to the Office of the Prosecutor,

Welcoming the order of the International Court of Justice of 22 July 2022 rejecting the preliminary objections of Myanmar in the case lodged by the Gambia against Myanmar on the application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[711] and finding the application of the Gambia to be admissible,

Recalling the order of the International Court of Justice of 23 January 2020 indicating provisional measures in the case lodged by the Gambia against Myanmar on the application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, which found that the Rohingya in Myanmar appeared to constitute a "protected group" within the meaning of article 2 of the Convention and that there was a real and imminent risk of irreparable prejudice to the rights of the Rohingya in Myanmar, and calling upon Myanmar to fully comply with the order,

Noting the publication of the executive summary of the report of the Independent Commission of Enquiry established by Myanmar in 2018, which, notwithstanding its limitations, acknowledges that war crimes, serious human rights violations and violations of domestic law had been committed by multiple actors and that there were reasonable grounds to believe that members of Myanmar security forces were involved, and regretting that the full report of the Commission at present remains unpublished,

Condemning all violations and abuses of human rights in Myanmar, including against Rohingya Muslims and other minorities, as well as the use of excessive force and violence by the Myanmar armed forces, including torture and sexual and gender-based violence, which has led to injuries and fatalities in many cases, against peaceful demonstrators, as well as members of civil society, women, young people, children, minorities and others, and expressing its deep concern at undue restrictions to the activities of medical and humanitarian personnel, all other representatives of civil society, labour union members, journalists and media workers, and calling for the immediate release of all those detained arbitrarily, including foreign nationals,

Reiterating its deep concern at the excessive use of force by Myanmar security and armed forces, taking place in most states and regions, the continuing forced displacement of civilians, including of minorities, the recruitment and use of children, abductions, arbitrary detentions, killings and maiming, attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship and civilian gatherings, and the use of facilities functioning as hospitals and schools for military purposes and for committing crimes, as well as reports of violations and abuses of human rights, including those involving the use of landmines, making conditions in Rakhine State unsuitable for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of all refugees and forcibly displaced persons, including Rohingya,

Underlining the urgent need to promote mine clearance, the clearance of explosive remnants of war and mine-risk education programmes for civilians, and to prioritize victim assistance and stockpile destruction, including prior to any movement by internally displaced persons back to contaminated areas,

Alarmed that children continue to be subjected to the six grave violations against children during armed conflict, and that the scale and recurrent nature of such violations and abuses will affect generations to come,

Reiterating the urgent need to ensure that all those responsible for crimes related to violations and abuses of international law throughout Myanmar, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international criminal law, are held to account through credible and independent national, regional or international justice mechanisms, while recalling the authority of the Security Council in this regard,

Expressing deep concern that, in Rakhine, more than 600,000 Rohingya Muslims remain largely segregated and discriminated against with respect to accessing citizenship and enjoying their human rights and fundamental freedoms, a large number of whom remain confined in camps with no freedom of movement and grossly restricted access to basic services, including health care and education, as well as livelihoods,

Expressing its deep concern at the escalating conflicts in Rakhine, including the growing military activities of Myanmar security forces close to the Bangladesh-Myanmar border, including repeated firing across the border and

[711] Resolution 260 A (III), annex.

violations of the airspace of Bangladesh resulting in casualties and panic among the civilians on both sides of the border,

Expressing its concern that Rohingya Muslims and other minorities, in particular women and girls, remain at significant risk of sexual and gender-based violence, notably in the context of the ongoing conflict between the security and armed forces and the Arakan Army,

Expressing its deep concern at the reports of violence by the security and armed forces, which has disproportionately affected civilians, including Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar, where schools, religious sites and homes have been targeted,

Reiterating its deep concern at the escalating violence and the continuing forced displacement of civilians, as well as violations and abuses of human rights against those belonging to Rohingya Muslim and other minorities, thus making conditions unsuitable for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of all refugees and forcibly displaced persons to Myanmar, including Rohingya,

Continuing to underline the need for the security and armed forces of Myanmar and other armed groups to cease all actions that run counter to the protection of all persons within the country, including those belonging to the Rohingya community, by respecting international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and ending the violence, including sexual violence, and calling for urgent steps to ensure justice in respect of all human rights violations and violations of international humanitarian law so that those displaced by violence are able to voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their places of origin or to a place of their choice in a sustainable manner,

Alarmed at the continued attacks on medical and humanitarian actors and the lack of safe and unhindered humanitarian access, and calling for all sides, in particular the Myanmar armed forces, to abide by international law, including international humanitarian law, in this matter, and to enable humanitarian actors to deliver humanitarian aid independently, neutrally and impartially,

Expressing its deep concern at the lack of access given to the International Committee of the Red Cross to prisons, which has grave consequences on the ability of families to be informed about the health and conditions of prisoners, as well as on prisoners' access to necessary health care,

Reiterating its deep distress at reports that unarmed individuals in Rakhine State have been subjected to the excessive use of force and violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the military and security and armed forces, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary killings, systematic rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance and government seizure of Rohingya lands from which Rohingya Muslims were evicted and their homes destroyed, and remaining concerned by the previous large-scale destruction of homes and systematic evictions in northern Rakhine State, including the use of arson and violence, as well as the unlawful use of force by non-State actors,

Expressing concern that, in northern Rakhine State, the implementation of policies under the guise of economic development and reconstruction by the Myanmar military and the heavy militarization of the area have resulted in the alteration of the demographic structure, which further prevents the members of the displaced Rohingya Muslim population from returning to Rakhine State,

Stressing the need for de-escalation and an enduring ceasefire throughout Myanmar, best achieved by dialogue between all parties,

Underlining the need for the resumption of peacebuilding efforts and their relevance for inclusive State- and nation-building,

Emphasizing the importance of supporting women's leadership and participation in inclusive State- and nation-building, especially by amplifying their potential in Myanmar as multipliers of peace, promoting social cohesion across different ethnic and religious communities, and thus welcoming the development of the women and peace and security platform in Myanmar, co-facilitated by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia,

Reiterating its grave concern that, in spite of the fact that the Rohingya minority has lived in Myanmar for generations prior to the independence of Myanmar, held full documentation and participated actively in government

and civic life, they were made stateless by the enactment of the 1982 Citizenship Law and were eventually disenfranchised, from 2015, from the electoral process,

Reaffirming that the denial of citizenship status and related rights to Rohingya Muslims and other minorities, including voting rights, is a serious human rights concern,

Re-emphasizing the right of all refugees and the importance of internally displaced persons to be able to return home and that such returns should be in safety and dignity and in a voluntary and sustainable manner, and reminding the international community of its collective responsibility in handling forcibly displaced persons in the region,

Expressing concern at the irregular maritime movement of Rohingya, risking their lives in perilous conditions at the hands of exploitative smugglers, which highlights their desperate situation and the urgent need to address the root causes of their vulnerability,

Alarmed by the continued influx to Bangladesh over the last four decades of 1.1 million Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar, including over 940,000 currently living there, most of whom arrived since 25 August 2017 in the aftermath of atrocities committed by the security and armed forces of Myanmar,

Recalling the bilateral arrangement of return concluded between the Government of Bangladesh and the Government of Myanmar on 23 November 2017 in Nay Pyi Taw and the formation of the 30-member joint working group on 19 December 2017 to facilitate the repatriation of displaced Rohingyas to Myanmar, and regretting that no repatriation could commence under the arrangement owing to the continued absence of a conducive environment in Rakhine State,

Underscoring the need for the implementation of and subsequent follow-up to the status of the implementation of the memorandum of understanding between Myanmar and the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on assistance in the repatriation process of all displaced persons from Rakhine State, including Rohingya Muslims, and calling upon relevant stakeholders in Myanmar to grant United Nations agencies unfettered access to northern Rakhine so that they can meaningfully engage with the process,

Reiterating its deep concern over the continued spread of false news, hate speech and inflammatory rhetoric, in particular through social media, notably targeting Rohingya Muslims and other minorities,

Reiterating its deep concern also at the restrictions and attacks on civil society, journalists and media workers, including restrictions on seeking, receiving and imparting information, including Internet shutdowns in Myanmar, that may also exacerbate further the plight of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities,

Underlining the importance of the call by the Secretary-General for increased efforts to implement the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, to address the root causes of the crisis, including those on access to citizenship for Rohingya, freedom of movement, the elimination of systematic segregation and all forms of discrimination, and inclusive and equal access to health services and education, and birth registration, in full consultation with members of all ethnic and minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations, including on matters of citizenship for Rohingya,

Acknowledging the pronouncements of the National Unity Government articulated in the "Policy position on the Rohingya in Rakhine State" released on 3 June 2021,

Recalling the commitment of the Secretary-General to implementing the recommendations made by the independent inquiry into the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar from 2010 to 2018, and underlining the need to implement relevant recommendations to enable more effective work in the future and to strengthen the prevention capacity of the United Nations system,

Expressing its concern that recent developments since 1 February 2021 pose serious challenges to the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of forcibly displaced Rohingya Muslims and all internally displaced persons, and in this regard stressing the need to address the root causes of the crisis in Myanmar, including Rakhine State, and reaffirming the necessity of an immediate cessation of the use of force that would lead to further displacement of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities, both internally and across borders,

Underlining the need for a peaceful solution for Myanmar, through an inclusive and peaceful dialogue between all parties, in accordance with the will and interests of the people of Myanmar,

Stressing the importance of ensuring equal opportunity for the representation and the full, equal and meaningful participation of Rohingya, other minorities and internally displaced persons, candidates and voters in democratically organized general elections, and that all people of Myanmar are able to cast their vote, allowing all candidates to contest elections fairly,

Welcoming the conclusions on children and armed conflict in Myanmar of the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict of the Security Council,[712] and noting the concerns expressed by the Working Group about the grave violations committed against children and the concern about children and armed conflict in Myanmar expressed by the Secretary-General in his report,

Commending the ongoing humanitarian efforts and commitments that the Government of Bangladesh, in cooperation with United Nations agencies and the international community, including all humanitarian actors, has extended to those fleeing human rights violations and abuses in Myanmar, welcoming in this regard the memorandum of understanding between the Government of Bangladesh and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, on behalf of the United Nations, to provide humanitarian assistance to the Rohingyas relocated to Bhashan Char, and recognizing the extensive investments that the Government of Bangladesh has made in its Bhashan Char project, including in the facilities and infrastructure, while noting the importance of efforts to ensure the sustainability of the project,

Recognizing that many member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation continue to host a large number of Rohingya Muslim refugees who fled the crisis,

Welcoming the statements made by the Chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations on 1 February and 2 March 2021, in which the Chair recalled the purposes and principles of the Charter of the Association, notably the principle of democracy, adherence to the rule of law, good governance and respect for and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and called upon all parties to exercise utmost restraint and seek a peaceful solution through constructive dialogue and practical reconciliation in the interests of the people and their livelihoods,

Expressing deep concern that there has been no substantive progress on the implementation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations five-point consensus, noting the Association's view that the execution of opposition activists was highly reprehensible and presented a gross lack of will to support the efforts of the Chair of the Association, and reiterating its call for concrete actions to effectively and fully implement the five-point consensus,

Emphasizing the importance of timely, equitable and unhindered access to safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics and other health-care products and technologies necessary to ensure an adequate and effective response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including for persons in the most vulnerable situations, those affected or displaced by armed conflicts in the country and persons belonging to minorities, such as Rohingya,

1. *Expresses grave concern* at continuing reports of serious human rights violations and abuses by the military and security forces as well as violations of international humanitarian law in Myanmar, notably against Rohingya and other minorities, including those involving arbitrary arrests, deaths in detention, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, deliberate killing and maiming of children, recruitment and use of children for forced labour, attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worships and protected persons in relation to schools and/or hospitals, indiscriminate shelling in civilian areas, destruction and burning of homes, deprivation of economic and social rights, forced displacement, including the forced displacement of more than 1.5 million Rohingya and other minorities to Bangladesh and across the region, rape, sexual slavery and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, as well as restrictions on exercising the rights to freedom of religion or belief, expression and peaceful assembly, and restrictions on media freedom and full Internet access and other restrictions;

2. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all violations and abuses of human rights in Myanmar, against civilians, including Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar, including before and following the unjustified declaration of the state of emergency on 1 February 2021 and its later extension, and emphasizes the importance of conducting international, independent, fair and transparent investigations into the most serious human rights violations in Myanmar, including sexual and gender-based violence and violations and abuses against women and children, and of holding accountable all those responsible for brutal acts and crimes against all persons, including Rohingya, in

[712] S/2022/493.

order to deliver justice to victims using all legal instruments and domestic, regional and international judicial mechanisms, including the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, as applicable;

3. *Calls upon* the security and armed forces of Myanmar to respect the democratic aspirations of the people of Myanmar, to end violence, to fully respect human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, and to end the state of emergency declared on 1 February 2021;

4. *Calls upon* the security and armed forces of Myanmar and other armed groups to end all hostilities and violence, and calls for the immediate release of all those detained arbitrarily, including foreign nationals;

5. *Stresses* the importance of agreeing on and enforcing an enduring ceasefire, including in Rakhine, a cessation of violence, and restraint by Myanmar security and armed forces and other armed groups, with a view to ensuring safety, security and protection of civilians, including those who are displaced and willing to return;

6. *Calls upon* all parties to the conflict to increase their engagement with the United Nations, and with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, to strengthen the protection of children, including through the signature of concrete time-bound commitments;

7. *Takes note* of the order of the International Court of Justice of 23 January 2020 indicating provisional measures, and urges Myanmar, in accordance with the Court's order in relation to members of the Rohingya in its territory, to take all measures within its power to prevent the commission of all acts within the scope of article 2 of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, to ensure that its military and any irregular armed units that may be directed or supported by it and any organizations and persons that may be subject to its control, direction or influence do not commit, inter alia, any such acts, to prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of evidence and to report to the Court as ordered on all measures taken to give effect to the order;

8. *Notes* that the International Court of Justice on 22 July 2022 rejected the preliminary objections of Myanmar challenging the Court's jurisdiction in the case brought by the Gambia under the Genocide Convention, and found the applications of the Gambia to be admissible;

9. *Expresses deep concern* that, despite the provisional measures ordered by the International Court of Justice on 23 January 2020, Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar, including women and children, continue to suffer from targeted killings, indiscriminate violence and serious injuries, including by indiscriminate fire, shelling, landmines or unexploded ordnance;

10. *Expresses grave concern* about the ongoing restrictions on humanitarian access in all conflict areas across Myanmar, including in Rakhine and Chin States, as well as the limited steps taken to ensure access to health care for Rohingya, and urges the granting of full, unrestricted and safe access to all humanitarian actors and all United Nations mandate holders and human rights mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar, the United Nations country task force on monitoring and reporting grave violations committed against children, the Independent Mechanism for Myanmar, established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 39/2, and relevant United Nations agencies and international and regional human rights bodies to independently monitor the situation of human rights and to ensure that individuals can cooperate without hindrance with these mechanisms and without fear of reprisal, intimidation or attack, and expresses deep concern that international access to affected areas of northern Rakhine State and other areas affected by violence remains severely restricted for the international community, including for United Nations agencies, humanitarian actors and international media;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations to ensure that the Independent Mechanism for Myanmar, as established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 39/2, is afforded the flexibility that it needs in terms of staffing, location and operational freedom so that it can deliver as effectively as possible on its mandate, and be able to brief Member States on its activities, and urges Myanmar, Member States, judicial authorities and private entities to cooperate fully with the Mechanism, including by granting it access, including access to witnesses where applicable, and by providing it with every assistance in the execution of its mandate;

12. *Expresses grave concern* at the potential retraumatization of survivors of human rights violations and abuses, particularly child survivors and sexual violence survivors, and calls upon all actors engaging in documentation to follow the "do no harm" principle for evidence-gathering in order to respect the dignity of survivors and to avoid retraumatization, and calls for fully addressing the needs of victims and survivors and their right to effective remedy, including through prompt, effective and independent casualty recording and guarantees of non-recurrence;

13. *Underlines* the importance of consulting with survivors and families of victims, including Rohingya and other minorities, and including them in advancing justice and accountability, as appropriate;

14. *Reiterates* the urgent call upon Myanmar or Myanmar Military where applicable:

(a) To end immediately all violence and all violations of international law in Myanmar, to ensure the protection of the human rights of all persons in Myanmar, including of Rohingya and persons belonging to other minorities, and to take all measures necessary to provide justice to victims, to ensure full accountability and to end impunity for all violations and abuses of human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, starting with a full, transparent and independent investigation into reports of all these violations, and calls for the release of the report of the Independent Commission of Enquiry established in 2018 in full or to share its findings with relevant international mechanisms;

(b) To ensure through concrete actions the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return and reintegration of Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar;

(c) To engage in inclusive, constructive and peaceful dialogue and reconciliation, in accordance with the will and interests of the people of Myanmar, including Rohingya Muslims and other minorities;

(d) To create the conditions necessary for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of all refugees, including Rohingya Muslim refugees, regretting the fact that not a single Rohingya so far has returned through a bilaterally set up mechanism for repatriation between Bangladesh and Myanmar owing to the failure of Myanmar to create such conditions in Rakhine State;

(e) To build trust among Rohingya Muslims in camps in Bangladesh through confidence-building measures, including by arranging "go and see" visits to Rakhine State by Rohingya representatives;

(f) To ensure full protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons in Myanmar, including Rohingya Muslims and other minorities, in an equal, non-discriminatory and dignified manner, in order to prevent further instability and insecurity, alleviate suffering, address the root causes of the crisis, including by repealing or reforming discriminatory legislation, and forge a viable, lasting and durable solution;

(g) To fulfil its human rights obligations and commitments to protect the right to freedom of expression, including online, and the rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly, to create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for civil society and independent media;

(h) To take the measures necessary to address the spread of discrimination and prejudice and to combat the incitement of hatred against Rohingya Muslims and persons belonging to other minorities, and to publicly condemn such acts and combat hate speech, while fully respecting international human rights law, as well as to promote interfaith dialogue in cooperation with the international community and encourage political and religious leaders in the country to work towards reconciliation among communities and national unity through dialogue, and to implement the Peacebuilding Fund project to address hate speech;

(i) To protect all persons and communities, in line with international humanitarian law and human rights law, including the Rohingya Muslims and other minorities;

(j) To expedite efforts to eliminate statelessness and the systematic and institutionalized discrimination against members of all minorities, in particular relating to Rohingya Muslims, by, inter alia, reviewing and reforming the 1982 Citizenship Law, which has led to deprivation of human rights, by ensuring equal access to full citizenship through a transparent, voluntary and accessible procedure and to all civil and political rights, by allowing for self-identification, by amending or repealing all discriminatory legislation and policies, including discriminatory provisions of the set of "protection of race and religion laws" enacted in 2015 covering religious conversion, interfaith marriage, monogamy and population control, and by lifting all local orders restricting rights to freedom of movement and access to civil registration, health and education services and livelihoods;

(k) To dismantle the camps for internally displaced persons in Rakhine State with a clear timeline and without further delay, ensuring that the return and relocation of internally displaced persons is carried out in accordance with

international standards and best practices, in cooperation with the United Nations and the international community, including as set forth in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;[713]

(l) To accelerate full implementation of all the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State to address the root causes of the crisis;

(m) To ensure that Rohingya, other minorities and internally displaced persons have an equal opportunity for representation and the full, equal and meaningful participation as candidates and voters in all general elections;

(n) To end and prevent the unlawful recruitment and use of children by all armed and security forces, including by implementing all activities of the joint action plan on children and armed conflict in coordination with the United Nations, and to address protection gaps by engaging with the task force on monitoring and reporting violations committed against children, notably by developing a joint action plan on killing and maiming and rape and other forms of sexual violence committed against children;

(o) To cooperate with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar, including by facilitating unconditional visits to Myanmar and her meaningful engagement with all stakeholders, including Rohingya Muslims and those arbitrarily detained;

(p) To cooperate and engage meaningfully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the Independent Mechanism and other United Nations mandate holders and mechanisms working on Myanmar, including by facilitating visits and granting unrestricted access throughout the country;

(q) To allow the resumption of family visits, grant immediate access, without undue restrictions, to appropriate international organizations and provide medical services to detainees and detention facilities;

(r) To review and repeal the amendments made in 2018 to the Vacant, Fallow and Virgin Lands Management Law, and to establish an inclusive land governance framework and to resolve issues of land tenure, in full consultation with affected populations, including ethnic and religious minority communities, in particular Rohingya Muslims;

(s) To end the reclassification of areas where Rohingya villages were previously located, and the removal of the names of villages from official maps, potentially altering how the land may be used, and stop, without delay, the construction of military facilities in those villages;

(t) To swiftly implement the five-point consensus reached at the Leaders' Meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations held on 24 April 2021 to facilitate a peaceful solution in the interest of the people of Myanmar and their livelihoods, and to that end calls upon all stakeholders in Myanmar to cooperate with the Association and the Special Envoy of the Chair of the Association, and expresses its support for these efforts;

(u) To take concrete steps to strengthen institution-building and structural reforms to uphold the rule of law, human rights and democratic principles, through a participatory and inclusive approach, including efforts to ensure the independence of the judiciary, and by reforming the security sector to enhance civilian control;

(v) To facilitate independent, impartial and thorough investigations into all allegations of violations of international humanitarian law, including into conduct that may constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity, including the use of starvation as a weapon of war, in Rakhine and Chin States, crimes of sexual violence and allegations of human rights violations, and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice through transparent and credible processes;

15. *Underscores* the importance of providing protection and assistance, including non-discriminatory access to services such as medical and psychosocial care, specifically tailored to women and girls, especially those who are victims of sexual and gender-based violence and human trafficking;

16. *Reiterates its deep concern* at the continued plight of Rohingya, and commends the commitment of Government of Bangladesh and other Member States to provide temporary shelter, humanitarian assistance and protection to them;

17. *Encourages* Myanmar to continue to work with Bangladesh, in line with the bilateral instruments on repatriation signed by Bangladesh and Myanmar, in order to expedite the creation of a conducive environment for the

[713] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of the forcibly displaced Rohingya in Bangladesh, with the full support and meaningful involvement of the international community, including the United Nations and its funds, programmes and agencies, and stresses the importance of meaningfully engaging with civil society;

18. *Recognizes* that the continuing multifaceted crisis that has arisen following the declaration of the state of emergency on 1 February 2021, inter alia, the cross-border displacement and prolonged delay in the repatriation of Rohingya, has serious negative impacts on the peace and stability of the region, particularly for the neighbouring countries of Myanmar, and stresses the urgent need for concrete action towards a sustainable solution to the crisis in line with the will of the people of Myanmar;

19. *Recognizes with appreciation* the assistance and support of the international community, including regional organizations, in particular the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the countries neighbouring Myanmar;

20. *Calls upon* the international community to effectively address irregular maritime movements of Rohingya, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations agencies, as well as ensure international burden- and responsibility-sharing, especially by the States parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees;[714]

21. *Emphasizes* the need for Myanmar to continue to cooperate fully with the Government of Bangladesh and with the United Nations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and in consultation with the populations concerned to enable the voluntary, safe, dignified, sustainable and well-informed return of all refugees and forcibly displaced persons and internally displaced persons to their places of origin in Myanmar, and to ensure protection of returnees and give them freedom of movement and unimpeded access to livelihoods, social services, including health services, education and shelter, and to compensate them for all losses;

22. *Calls for* the continued and effective implementation of the memorandum of understanding signed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Development Programme with Myanmar, to support the creation of conditions for the return of refugees from Bangladesh;

23. *Underlines* the urgent need for the expansion of the pilot projects by the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees under which the internally displaced Rohingya, living under difficult conditions in northern Rakhine State, can return to their original house plots and their communities can receive multisectoral assistance;

24. *Encourages* the international community in the true spirit of interdependence and equal burden- and responsibility-sharing to (a) assist Bangladesh in providing humanitarian assistance to Rohingya refugees and forcibly displaced persons until such time as they are voluntarily repatriated to Myanmar in safety and dignity; and (b) assist in the provision of humanitarian assistance in Myanmar to all affected persons of all communities displaced internally in Myanmar, including in Rakhine State, taking into account the vulnerable situation of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

25. *Welcomes* the implementation of recommendations of the preliminary needs assessment by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations to provide effective humanitarian assistance, facilitate the repatriation process and promote sustainable development in Rakhine State, and recognizes the need for closer engagement with the Rohingya refugee community, while encouraging close cooperation with all relevant United Nations agencies and international partners, and the need to address the root causes of the conflict, so that affected communities can rebuild their lives there;

26. *Urges* the international community to support the 2022 joint response plan for the Rohingya humanitarian crisis to ensure adequate resources for addressing the humanitarian crisis;

27. *Encourages* all business enterprises, including transnational corporations and domestic enterprises operating in Myanmar, to respect human rights in accordance with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights[715] and the recommendations made by the independent international fact-finding mission in its report on the economic interests of the Myanmar military;

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[714] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[715] A/HRC/17/31, annex.

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions relating to Myanmar, involving all relevant stakeholders, and to offer assistance to Myanmar;

(b) To extend the appointment of the Special Envoy on Myanmar and to submit the report of the Special Envoy covering all relevant issues addressed in the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

(c) To provide all assistance necessary to enable the Special Envoy on Myanmar to effectively discharge her mandate and to report to Member States every six months, or as warranted by the situation on the ground, including through a workplan for the Special Envoy's work in Myanmar;

(d) To identify ways in which the existing mandates can more effectively deliver in their respective areas of responsibility concerning Myanmar and can complement each other's work through enhanced coordination;

(e) To ensure that all in-country programmes incorporate a human rights-based approach and undergo due diligence processes;

(f) To call the continued attention of the Security Council to the situation in Myanmar with concrete recommendations for action towards resolving the humanitarian crisis, promoting the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of Rohingya refugees and forcibly displaced persons and ensuring accountability for those responsible for mass atrocities and human rights violations and abuses;

(g) To support the implementation of the recommendations of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar and assist the work of the ongoing Independent Mechanism, including by facilitating a dialogue between the General Assembly and the Mechanism during the seventy-eighth session of the Assembly;

(h) To fully implement the recommendations contained in the report of the independent inquiry into the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar from 2010 to 2018 in order to ensure more effective work in the future and to strengthen the prevention capacity of the United Nations system;

(i) To support the implementation of the memorandum of understanding signed between Myanmar and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Development Programme and to include a part dedicated to the implementation of the memorandum of understanding in his annual report;

29. *Requests* that the Special Envoy continue to participate by way of an interactive dialogue in the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly;

30. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter, inter alia, on the basis of the reports of the Secretary-General, the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar, the Independent Mechanism, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar.

RESOLUTION 77/228

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 80 to 29, with 65 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.3, para. 29)[716]

* *In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen

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[716] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Against: Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mali, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia

77/228. Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[717] the International Covenants on Human Rights[718] and other international human rights instruments,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution 76/178 of 16 December 2021,

Welcoming the statements made by the Acting United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and special procedure mandate holders in September and October 2022, in which they noted concerns about the deteriorating human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 76/178[719] and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran,[720] submitted pursuant to Council resolution 49/24 of 1 April 2022;[721]

2. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host one of the largest refugee populations in the world, including approximately 3.6 million Afghan refugees, and to provide them with access to basic services, in particular health care, including coronavirus disease (COVID-19) vaccinations, temporary work permits and education for children, and also welcomes the organization of a census of the Afghan population and a decision to grant newly documented Afghans six-month residence permits;

3. *Also welcomes* the approval of the Law for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and subsequent discussions regarding its implementation, while noting that the law remains unimplemented, and urges the authorities to work together with civil society and persons with disabilities to ensure that sufficient State funds are allocated for its implementation and monitoring;

4. *Further welcomes* the adoption of a bill to protect children and adolescents, noting the effort to prioritize children's education and facilitate virtual learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, calls upon the relevant Iranian authorities to fully implement the amendment to the Nationality Law, which gives Iranian women married to men with foreign nationality the right to request Iranian citizenship for their children under the age of 18 years, and emphasizes the importance of continuing discussions on prohibiting child, early and forced marriage, female genital mutilation, subjection of children to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and increasing the age of majority for boys and girls in the Islamic Republic of Iran to 18 years;

5. *Welcomes* the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with human rights treaty bodies, including through the submission of periodic reports, and notes in particular the engagement of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on the

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[717] Resolution 217 A (III).

[718] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[719] A/77/525.

[720] A/77/181.

[721] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. VI, sect. A.

Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its participation in the universal periodic review;

6. *Notes* the ongoing contact with and dialogue between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as its cooperation with select special procedure mandate holders, while noting the limited scope of such cooperation to date and reaffirming the importance of full cooperation with all special procedure mandate holders;

7. *Welcomes* the expressed readiness of the Iranian High Council for Human Rights and other Iranian officials to engage in bilateral dialogues on human rights, and calls upon them to increase such dialogues or resume those that have been paused;

8. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on human rights, in cooperation with international aid organizations, and welcomes the recent acceleration of the COVID-19 vaccination campaign;

9. *Expresses serious concern* at the alarmingly high frequency of the imposition of the death penalty and significant increase in the carrying-out of the death penalty by the Islamic Republic of Iran in violation of its international obligations, including executions undertaken against persons on the basis of forced confessions; reiterates the concern of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran that a number of offences carrying the death penalty do not qualify as the most serious crimes, including drug-related offences, as well as other actions provided under the penal code of the Islamic Republic of Iran, including adultery, same-sex relations, apostasy, blasphemy and convictions for drinking alcohol,[722] as well as crimes that are overly broad or vaguely defined, which is in violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[723] expresses serious concern at the disproportionate application of the death penalty to persons belonging to minorities, who are particularly targeted for death sentences relating to their alleged involvement in political or religious groups; expresses concern at the continuing disregard for protections under Iranian law or internationally recognized safeguards relating to the imposition of the death penalty, including executions undertaken without prior notification of the prisoner's family members or legal counsel, as required by Iranian law, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to abolish, in law and in practice, public executions, which are contrary to the 2008 directive seeking to end this practice issued by the former head of the judiciary, and to consider establishing a moratorium on executions;

10. *Also expresses serious concern* at the continued imposition of the death penalty by the Islamic Republic of Iran against minors, and urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease the imposition of the death penalty against minors, including persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18, in violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[724] and to commute the sentences for child offenders on death row;

11. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure, in law and in practice, that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, which may include sexual and gender-based violence in all its forms, amputations, and punishments that are grossly disproportionate to the nature of the offence, in conformity with amendments to the Penal Code, the constitutional guarantees of the Islamic Republic of Iran and international obligations and standards, including but not limited to the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[725] and to ensure that allegations of torture are promptly and impartially investigated and perpetrators held responsible;

12. *Urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease the widespread and systematic use of arbitrary arrests and detention, including the frequent use of this practice to target dual and foreign nationals, who in some cases reside overseas and may be prosecuted upon return, and the practices of enforced disappearance and incommunicado detention, to release those who have been arbitrarily detained and to account for the fate or whereabouts of those subjected to enforced disappearance and to hold those responsible to account, and to uphold, in law and in practice,

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[722] A/77/181, para. 12.

[723] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[724] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[725] Resolution 70/175, annex.

procedural guarantees and other legal protections to ensure a fair trial, including timely access to legal representation of one's choice from the time of arrest through all stages of trials and appeals, being informed promptly and in detail, in a language that the accused speaks and understands, of the charges faced, and being provided consideration of bail and other reasonable terms for release from custody pending trial, and respect the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure that it meets its obligations under article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations[726] in relation to communication with and access to nationals of sending States who are in prison, custody or detention;

13. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the poor conditions of prisons, recognizing the particular risks for prisoners in the context of COVID-19 and welcoming in this regard the initiative to temporarily furlough prisoners so as to mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19 in prisons, welcomes the adoption by the Prison Service of a new directive on prison conditions and the treatment of prisoners, which expressly forbids torture and other gender-based discrimination, and calls for its implementation, urges an end to the practice of deliberately denying prisoners access to adequate medical treatment and supplies, safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, or making such access contingent upon confession, calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish credible and independent prison oversight authorities to investigate reports of suspicious deaths in detention and complaints of abuse, and urges the relevant authorities to conduct transparent, independent, impartial investigations and ensure accountability;

14. *Strongly urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of systemic discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls; to take gender-responsive measures to prevent and ensure protection for women and girls against sexual and gender-based violence in all its forms, including sexual assault and intimate partner violence, including during the COVID-19 pandemic; to ensure women's and girls' equal protection and access to justice, including by preventing and prohibiting so-called honour killings and child, early and forced marriage, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child; to promote, support and enable women's and girls' full, equal and meaningful, participation in political and other decision-making processes, and, while recognizing the high enrolment of women in all levels of education in the Islamic Republic of Iran, to lift restrictions on women's and girls' equal access to free, equitable primary and secondary education and remove legal, regulatory and cultural barriers to women's free, equal and meaningful participation in the labour market and in all aspects of economic, cultural, social and political life, including participation in and attendance at sporting events; expresses concern at the lack of developments on the adoption of the bill to protect women against violence and calls for its implementation; and expresses further concern that the entry into force of the bill on youth and protection of the family in November 2021 undermines the rights of women and girls to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

15. *Expresses serious concern* that the enforcement of the hijab and chastity law and its violent implementation by the Iranian morality police fundamentally undermines the human rights of women and girls, including the right to freedom of expression and opinion, and strongly urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease the use of excessive force, up to and including lethal force, in the enforcement of any policy contrary to the human rights of women and girls, as well as the use of force, and use of lethal force resulting in death, against peaceful protestors, including women and children, such as that in the aftermath of Mahsa Amini's arbitrary arrest and subsequent death while in custody, and reiterates the importance of prompt, thorough, independent, impartial and transparent investigations into all such instances in order to hold those responsible to account;

16. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to release persons detained for the exercise of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, including those who have been detained solely for taking part in peaceful protests, including the protests of November 2019, January 2020, November 2021, May 2022 and September to November 2022;

17. *Condemns* the widespread use of force against non-violent protestors, expresses concern at the bill proposed by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the use of firearms during protests and calls for its withdrawal, and calls upon the Iranian authorities to uphold the human rights of those involved in peaceful protests, to consider rescinding unduly harsh sentences, including those involving the death penalty and long-term internal exile, and to end reprisals against human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, peaceful protesters and their families, journalists and media workers covering the protests, and individuals who cooperate or

[726] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

attempt to cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms, to investigate reprisals and instances of use of force with respect to peaceful protests and to hold those responsible to account, and emphasizes the commitments made by judicial authorities to review the cases of those arrested;

18. *Expresses serious concern* at the widespread restrictions on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association and freedom of expression, and the use of excessive force with respect to the peaceful protests regarding water shortages in November 2021 and labour rights between March 2020 and July 2022, and calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to release human rights defenders working on labour and environmental issues and members of teachers associations subjected to arbitrary arrest and detention, and prison sentences, and urges the Government to address violations of the rights to social security and to just and favourable conditions of work, and to address wage arrears, denial of employee protections and benefits, unjustified dismissals and low worker wages, and to increase wages and pensions to ensure an adequate living standard;

19. *Strongly urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to end violations of the rights to freedom of expression and of opinion, both online and offline, which includes the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, and to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, including through Internet disruption practices such as shutting down networks and throttling access to the Internet, applications and services on mobile data, or measures to unlawfully or arbitrarily block or take down media websites and social networks, and other widespread restrictions on Internet access or dissemination of information online, and calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to withdraw the bill on protecting the rights of users in cyberspace as its implementation undermines the rights of individuals online;

20. *Encourages* the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to cooperate with all relevant authorities on investigations into allegations of harassment and intimidation of some families of the victims of the downing of Ukraine International Airlines flight 752, and calls upon the Government to ensure accountability for the downing in accordance with its obligations under applicable international law;

21. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the judicial and security branches, to create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment, both online and offline, in which an independent, diverse and pluralistic civil society can operate free from hindrance, insecurity and reprisals, to end its harassment, intimidation and persecution, including abductions, arrests and executions, of political opponents, human rights defenders, including minority and women human rights defenders and those defending the rights of persons belonging to minority groups, labour, retiree and trade union activists, students' rights defenders, environmentalists, academics, film-makers, journalists, bloggers, social media users and social media page administrators, media workers, religious leaders, artists, lawyers and their families, whether they are Iranians, dual nationals or foreign nationals, and wherever it may occur;

22. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to release women human rights defenders imprisoned for exercising their rights, including the rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly and the right to freedom of expression and opinion, and to take appropriate, robust and practical steps to protect women human rights defenders and guarantee their full enjoyment of all their human rights, recalls the positive, important and legitimate role of human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, in promoting and protecting human rights and strengthening understanding, tolerance and peace, and urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to create and support a safe, enabling and accessible and inclusive environment online and offline for their participation in all relevant activities;

23. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, including but not limited to Arabs, Azeris, Balochis, Kurds and Turkmen, and their defenders;

24. *Expresses serious concern* about ongoing severe limitations and increasing restrictions on the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, restrictions on the establishment of places of worship, undue restrictions on burials carried out in accordance with religious tenets, attacks against places of worship and burial and other human rights violations, including but not limited to the increased harassment, intimidation, persecution, arbitrary arrest and detention of, and incitement to hatred that leads to violence against, persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, including Christians (particularly converts from Islam), Gonabadi Dervishes, Jews, Sufi Muslims, Sunni Muslims, Yarsanis, Zoroastrians, and, in particular, Baha'is, who have been subjected to a sudden increase in persecution, who have faced increasing restrictions and systemic persecution by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran on account of their faith and have been reportedly subjected to mass arrests and lengthy prison sentences, as well as the arrest of prominent members and increased confiscation and destruction of property, and calls upon the Government to cease monitoring individuals on account of their religious

identity, to release all religious practitioners imprisoned for their membership in or activities on behalf of a minority religious group, to cease the desecration of cemeteries and to ensure that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, including the freedom to have, to change or to adopt a religion or belief of their choice, in accordance with its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

25. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination on the basis of thought, conscience, religion or belief, including restrictions contained in article 499 bis and article 500 bis of the Islamic Penal Code, the enforcement of which has significantly escalated discrimination and violence, as well as economic restrictions, such as the closure, destruction or confiscation of businesses, land and properties, the cancellation of licences and the denial of employment in certain public and private sectors, including government or military positions and elected office, the denial of and restrictions on access to education, including for members of the Baha'i faith, and other human rights violations against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, condemns without reservation antisemitism and any denial of the Holocaust, and calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to end ongoing systemic impunity for those who commit crimes against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities;

26. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to launch a comprehensive accountability process, including legal reforms, reiterating the importance of credible, independent and impartial investigations in response to all allegations of human rights violations, including excessive use of force, arbitrary arrest and detention, and torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including against dual nationals or foreign nationals, peaceful protesters and political prisoners, failure to respect fair trial guarantees, and the use of torture to extract confessions, and cases of suspicious deaths in custody, as well as long-standing violations involving the Iranian judiciary and security agencies, including enforced disappearances, extrajudicial executions and destruction of evidence and gravesites in relation to such violations, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to end ongoing systemic impunity for such violations and ensure the availability of effective remedies for victims;

27. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement its obligations under those human rights treaties to which it is already a party, to withdraw any reservations that are imprecise or could be considered incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty, to act upon the concluding observations concerning the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted by the bodies of the international human rights treaties to which it is a party and to consider ratifying or acceding to the international human rights treaties to which it is not already a party;

28. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to deepen its engagement with international human rights mechanisms by:

(a) Cooperating fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including by accepting the repeated requests made by the Special Rapporteur to visit the country in order to carry out the mandate;

(b) Increasing cooperation with other special procedures, including by facilitating long-standing requests for access to the country from thematic special procedure mandate holders, whose access to its territory has been restricted or denied, despite the standing invitation issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran, without imposing undue conditions upon those visits;

(c) Continuing to enhance its cooperation with the treaty bodies, including by submitting reports under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[727] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;[728]

(d) Implementing all accepted universal periodic review recommendations from its first cycle, in 2010, its second cycle, in 2014, and its third cycle, in 2019, with the full and genuine participation of independent civil society and other stakeholders in the implementation process;

(e) Building upon the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the universal periodic review process by continuing to explore cooperation on human rights and justice reform with the United Nations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

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[727] Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

[728] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

(f) Following through on its commitment to establish an independent national human rights institution, made in the context of its first, second and third universal periodic reviews by the Human Rights Council, with due regard for the recommendation of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

29. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue to translate the statements made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with respect to human rights into concrete action that results in demonstrable improvements as soon as possible and to ensure that its national laws are consistent with its obligations under international human rights law and that they are implemented in accordance with its international obligations;

30. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the substantive concerns highlighted in the reports of the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the specific calls to action found in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to respect fully its human rights obligations in law and in practice;

31. *Strongly encourages* the relevant thematic special procedure mandate holders to pay particular attention to, with a view to investigating and reporting on, the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation, and to submit an interim report to the Human Rights Council at its fifty-third session;

33. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its seventy-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

RESOLUTION 77/229

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 82 to 14, with 80 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.3, para. 29)[729]

* *In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

Against: Belarus, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Mali, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

[729] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Vanuatu.

77/229. Situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[730] international human rights treaties and other relevant international instruments and declarations,

Recalling the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[731] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[732] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[733] and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[734]

Recalling also the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[735] and Additional Protocol I thereto, of 1977,[736] as applicable, as well as relevant customary international law,

Confirming the primary responsibility of States to respect, protect and fulfil human rights,

Reaffirming the responsibility of States to respect international law, including the principle that all States shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State and from acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, recalling its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, in which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the principles contained therein,

Recalling its resolution 3314 (XXIX) of 14 December 1974, entitled "Definition of aggression", in which it states that no territorial acquisition or special advantage resulting from aggression is or shall be recognized as lawful,

Recalling also its resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, in which it affirmed its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders and called upon all States, international organizations and specialized agencies not to recognize any alteration to the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and to refrain from any action or dealing that might be interpreted as recognizing any such altered status,

Recalling further its resolution ES-11/4 of 12 October 2022, entitled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine: defending the principles of the Charter of the United Nations",

Recalling its resolutions 71/205 of 19 December 2016, 72/190 of 19 December 2017, 73/263 of 22 December 2018, 74/168 of 18 December 2019, 75/192 of 16 December 2020 and 76/179 of 16 December 2021 on the situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, its resolutions 73/194 of 17 December 2018, 74/17 of 9 December 2019, 75/29 of 7 December 2020 and 76/70 of 9 December 2021 on the problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, and relevant decisions of international organizations, specialized agencies and bodies within the United Nations system,

Recalling also its resolutions ES-11/1 of 2 March 2022 on the aggression against Ukraine and ES-11/2 of 24 March 2022 on the humanitarian consequences of the aggression against Ukraine, and Human Rights Council resolutions 49/1 of 4 March 2022 on the situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian

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[730] Resolution 217 A (III).

[731] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[732] Ibid., vol. 1465, No. 24841.

[733] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[734] Resolution 61/295, annex.

[735] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[736] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

aggression[737] and S-34/1 of 12 May 2022 on the deteriorating human rights situation in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression,[738]

Gravely concerned that the provisions of these resolutions and relevant decisions of international organizations, specialized agencies and bodies within the United Nations system have not been implemented by the Russian Federation,

Condemning the ongoing temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine – the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (hereinafter "Crimea") – by the Russian Federation, and reaffirming the non-recognition of its annexation,

Condemning also the unprovoked aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation in violation of Article 2 (4) of the Charter, and the use of Crimea for this aim and to support the attempted illegal annexation of Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions,

Supporting the commitment by Ukraine to adhering to international law in its efforts to put an end to the temporary Russian occupation of Crimea, and welcoming the commitments by Ukraine to protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons and its cooperation with human rights treaty bodies and international institutions,

Recalling that organs and officials of the Russian Federation established in the temporarily occupied Crimea are illegitimate and should be referred to as "occupying authorities of the Russian Federation",

Concerned that applicable international human rights obligations and treaties, to which Ukraine is a party, are not upheld by the occupying Power in Crimea, thus significantly decreasing the ability of residents of Crimea to exercise their human rights and fundamental freedoms since its temporary occupation by the Russian Federation,

Reaffirming the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law,

Welcoming the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in Ukraine, of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe and of the mission of experts under the Moscow Mechanism of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in which they stated that violations and abuses of human rights continued to take place in Ukrainian territory affected by aggression by the Russian Federation,

Welcoming also the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, submitted pursuant to resolutions 71/205[739] and 72/190,[740] and the reports of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolutions 73/263,[741] 74/168,[742] 75/192[743] and 76/179,[744] and the report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 49/1,

Condemning the imposition and retroactive application of the legal system of the Russian Federation, and its negative impact on the human rights situation in Crimea, the imposition by the Russian Federation of its automatic citizenship on protected persons in Crimea, which is contrary to international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions and customary international law, and the deportation, regressive effects on the enjoyment of human rights and effective restriction of land ownership of those who have rejected that citizenship,

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[737] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. VI, sect. A.

[738] Ibid., chap. VII.

[739] See A/72/498.

[740] See A/73/404.

[741] A/74/276.

[742] A/75/334 and A/HRC/44/21.

[743] A/76/260 and A/HRC/47/58.

[744] A/77/220 and A/HRC/50/65.

Deeply concerned about continued reports that the law enforcement system of the Russian Federation conducts searches and raids of private homes, businesses and meeting places in Crimea, which disproportionally affect Crimean Tatars, and recalling that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights prohibits arbitrary or unlawful interference with a person's privacy, family, home or correspondence,

Gravely concerned that, since 2014, torture has reportedly been used by the Russian authorities, and expressing deep concern about the ongoing reports of arbitrary detentions, arrests and sentencing by the Russian Federation of Ukrainian citizens, in particular for statements and actions in opposition to the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, including Emir-Usein Kuku, Halyna Dovhopola, Server Mustafayev, Vladyslav Yesypenko, Nariman Dzhelyal, Iryna Danilovych, Bohdan Ziza, Enver Krosh, Vilen Temeryanov and many others,

Deeply concerned about the serious continued restrictions on the right to freedom of movement of persons who have previously been arbitrarily detained and served sentences on politically motivated criminal charges,

Gravely concerned that the occupation continues to affect the enjoyment of social, cultural and economic rights by residents, including children, women, older persons, persons with disabilities and other persons in vulnerable and marginalized situations,

Condemning the reported serious violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights committed against residents of Crimea, in particular extrajudicial killings, abductions, enforced disappearances, politically motivated prosecutions, discrimination, harassment, intimidation, violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, arbitrary detentions and arrests, torture and ill-treatment, in particular to extract confessions, subjecting detainees to special security regimes and involuntary placement in psychiatric institutions, as well as deplorable treatment and conditions in detention, and the forcible transfer or deportation of protected persons to the Russian Federation, as well as reported abuses of other fundamental freedoms, including the freedoms of expression, religion or belief and association and the right to peaceful assembly,

Deeply concerned about restrictions faced by Ukrainians, including Indigenous Peoples of Crimea, in particular the Crimean Tatars, in exercising their economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to work, as well as the ability to maintain their identity and culture and to education in the Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar languages,

Condemning the reported destructions of cultural and natural heritage, illegal archaeological excavations and transfer of cultural property, discrimination against persons belonging to religious minorities and repression of religious traditions, thereby diminishing Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar culture in the ethnocultural landscape of Crimea,

Expressing concern about the militarization and assimilation of young people in Crimea by the Russian Federation, including combat training of Crimean children for military service in the Russian armed forces as well as the introduction of "military-patriotic" education system, and its blocking of the access of residents of Crimea to Ukrainian education,

Condemning the incitement of hatred against Ukraine and Ukrainians as well as the dissemination of disinformation justifying the aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation, including through the education system,

Gravely concerned by the above-mentioned policies and practices of the Russian Federation, which cause a continuing threat and have caused a large number of Crimean residents to flee from Crimea,

Recalling that individual or mass forcible transfers, as well as deportations of protected persons from occupied territory to the territory of the occupying Power, or to that of any other country, occupied or not, and the deportation or transfer by an occupying Power of parts of its own civilian population into the territory that it occupies, are prohibited under international humanitarian law, regardless of their motive,

Deeply concerned by consistent reports that the Russian Federation promotes policies and conducts practices aimed at changing the demographic, including ethnic, structure in Crimea, and recalling in this respect that the occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory that it occupies,

Concerned about the negative effects on the full and effective enjoyment of human rights by residents of Crimea resulting from disruptive activities of the occupying Power, including the expropriation of land, demolition of houses and depletion of natural and agricultural resources, which contribute to changing the economic and demographic structure of Crimea,

Reaffirming the right of return of all internally displaced persons and refugees affected by the temporary occupation by the Russian Federation to their homes in Ukraine,

Reaffirming its serious concern that, according to the decision of the so-called "Supreme Court of Crimea" of 26 April 2016 and the decision of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation of 29 September 2016, the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, the self-governing body of the Indigenous People of Crimea – the Crimean Tatars, continues to be declared an extremist organization and the ban on its activities has still not been repealed, and that the persecution of the leaders of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People continues,

Condemning the ongoing pressure exerted upon persons belonging to religious minorities and their communities, including through frequent police raids, demolition of and eviction from buildings dedicated to religion, undue registration requirements that have affected legal status and property rights and threats against and persecution of those belonging to the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, Protestant churches, Muslim religious communities, Greek Catholics, Roman Catholics and Jehovah's Witnesses, and condemning also the baseless prosecution of dozens of peaceful Muslims for allegedly belonging to extremist organizations,

Gravely concerned about the constant use of military courts, including those located on the territory of the Russian Federation, to try civilian residents of Crimea and the failure of the occupying Power to respect fair trial standards,

Condemning the continuous widespread misuse of counter-terrorism and anti-extremism laws to suppress dissent, including through enforcing new Russian legislation with the intent to dissuade the residents of Crimea from peaceful protests, in accordance with their rights to freedom of expression and political opinion, following and during the unprovoked aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine,

Strongly condemning, in this regard, the ongoing pressure and mass detentions on terrorism, extremism and espionage grounds and other forms of repression against journalists and other media workers, human rights defenders and civil rights activists, including against activists of the Crimean Solidarity civic initiative, which documents abuses on the peninsula and provides humanitarian assistance to the families of victims of politically motivated prosecutions,

Recalling the order of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2017 on provisional measures in the case concerning the *Application of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*,[745]

Recalling also the order of the International Court of Justice of 16 March 2022 on provisional measures in the case concerning *Allegations of Genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*,[746]

Recalling further the prohibition under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the occupying Power to compel protected persons to serve in its armed or auxiliary forces, including medical staff, and strongly condemning the ongoing forced conscription and mobilization to the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation in Crimea against the backdrop of the unprovoked aggression against Ukraine,

Recalling that the safety of journalists, other media workers and a free press, or other media, are essential for the realization of the rights to freedom of expression and freedom to seek, receive and impart information and the enjoyment of other human rights and fundamental freedoms, concerned about reports that journalists, media workers and citizen journalists continue to face unjustified interference with their reporting activities in Crimea, and expressing deep concern that journalists, media workers and citizen journalists have been arbitrarily arrested, detained, prosecuted, harassed and intimidated as a direct result of their reporting activities, in particular for covering developments in Crimea as well as unprovoked Russian aggression against Ukraine,

Condemning the blocking by the Russian Federation of Ukrainian websites and television channels and the seizure of Ukrainian transmission frequencies in Crimea, as well as the use of mass media controlled by the occupying

[745] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 4* (A/72/4), chap. V, sect. A.

[746] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 4* (A/77/4), chap. V.

Power to incite hatred against Ukrainians, the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, Crimean Tatars, Muslims, Jehovah's Witnesses and activists and to call for atrocities against Ukrainians,

Gravely concerned by the documented cases in which the Federal Security Service of the Russian Federation allegedly tortured or ill-treated Crimean residents following their arrests, including by using beatings, electric shocks and suffocation against victims,

Reiterating its concern regarding multiple exercises of Russian armed forces held in Crimea, using Crimea in the unprovoked aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, the conduct of which entails considerable long-term negative environmental consequences in the region, impacting civilians' enjoyment of their human rights,

Welcoming the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine and other international and regional organizations to support Ukraine in respecting, protecting and fulfilling human rights, and expressing concern over the lack of safe and unfettered access by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms and human rights non-governmental organizations to Crimea,

Welcoming also the decision of the Secretary-General to add Ukraine as a situation of concern in his annual report on children and armed conflict, with immediate effect, whereby grave violations against children committed in Ukraine will be monitored and reported to the Security Council,

Commending the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict on the prevention of and response to conflict-related sexual violence in Ukraine,

Acknowledging the importance of the investigation conducted by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, emphasizing the role played by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in contributing to an objective appraisal of the situation of human rights in Ukraine, and in this regard welcoming the investigation by the International Criminal Court,

Strongly condemning the new unprecedented wave of arbitrary detentions in Crimea, the forcible transfers to and from Crimea, the continuing impunity in reported cases of enforced disappearances, as well as the so-called filtration procedures, in particular in relation to displaced persons,

Gravely concerned that the temporary occupation of Crimea became a blueprint for a grave human rights crisis in other territories of Ukraine under temporary military control by the Russian Federation,

Affirming that the seizure of Crimea and other territories of Ukraine by force is illegal and a violation of international law, and affirming also that control of all of Ukraine's territory must be immediately restored to Ukraine,

1. *Deplores* the failure of the Russian Federation to comply with the repeated requests and demands of the General Assembly, as well as with the orders of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2017 on provisional measures in the case concerning the *Application of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*, and of 16 March 2022 on provisional measures in the case concerning *Allegations of Genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*;

2. *Strongly condemns* the continuing and total disregard by the Russian Federation for its obligations under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, regarding its legal responsibility for the occupied territory, including the responsibility to respect Ukrainian law and the rights of all civilians;

3. *Deplores in the strongest terms* the aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine in violation of Article 2 (4) of the Charter, and the use of Crimea for this aim and to support the attempted illegal annexation of Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions;

4. *Demands* that the Russian Federation immediately cease its aggression against Ukraine and unconditionally withdraw all of its military forces from the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders;

5. *Condemns* violations and abuses of human rights law and international humanitarian law perpetrated by the Russian occupying authorities and entailing discrimination against the residents of the temporarily occupied Crimea, including Crimean Tatars, as well as Ukrainians and persons belonging to other ethnic and religious groups;

6. *Demands* that the Russian Federation respect obligations under international law with regard to respecting the laws in force in Crimea prior to occupation;

7. *Urges* the Russian Federation:

(a) To uphold all of its obligations under applicable international law;

(b) To fully and immediately comply with the orders of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2017 and of 16 March 2022;

(c) To take all measures necessary to bring an immediate end to all violations and abuses of human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law against residents of the temporarily occupied Crimea, in particular reported discriminatory measures and practices, arbitrary detentions and arrests, violations and abuses within the framework of the filtration procedures, enforced disappearances, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, sexual and gender-based violence, including to compel apprehended persons to self-incriminate or "cooperate" with law enforcement, ensure fair trial, revoke all discriminatory legislation and hold accountable those responsible for those violations and abuses by ensuring the independent, impartial and effective investigation of all allegations;

(d) To refrain from arresting or prosecuting Crimean residents for non-criminal acts committed or opinions expressed, including in social media comments or posts, and release all Crimean residents who have been arrested or imprisoned for such acts;

(e) To respect the laws in force in Ukraine, repeal laws unlawfully imposed in Crimea by the Russian Federation that allow for forced evictions and the confiscation of private property, including land in Crimea, in violation of applicable international law, and respect the property rights of all former owners affected by previous confiscations;

(f) To immediately release and allow the return to Ukraine, without preconditions, of Ukrainian citizens who were unlawfully detained, as well as those transferred or deported across internationally recognized borders from Crimea to the Russian Federation;

(g) To disclose the number and identity of individuals deported from Crimea to the Russian Federation to serve criminal sentences and take immediate action to allow the voluntary return of such individuals to Crimea;

(h) To end the practice of placing detainees in solitary confinement cells as a method of intimidation;

(i) To monitor and accommodate the medical needs of all Ukrainian citizens unlawfully detained for the exercise of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, including political prisoners, in Crimea and the Russian Federation and allow the monitoring of those detainees' state of health and conditions of detention by independent international monitors and physicians from reputable international health organizations, including the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and investigate effectively all deaths in detention;

(j) To uphold the rights, in accordance with international law and until their release, of Ukrainian prisoners and detainees in Crimea and in the Russian Federation, including those on hunger strike, and encourages it to respect the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules)[747] and the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);[748]

(k) To address ongoing impunity and ensure that those found to be responsible for violations and abuses of human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law are held accountable before an independent judiciary;

(l) To create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for journalists and media workers and citizen journalists, human rights defenders and defence lawyers to perform their work independently and without undue

[747] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[748] Resolution 65/229, annex.

interference in Crimea, including by refraining from travel bans, deportations, arbitrary arrests, detention and prosecution, and other restrictions on the enjoyment of their rights;

(m) To respect, protect and fulfil freedom of opinion and expression, which includes the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers, enable a safe and enabling environment for independent media pluralism and ensure a safe and enabling environment for civil society organizations;

(n) To respect freedom of opinion, association and peaceful assembly without any restrictions other than those permissible under international law, and freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, without discrimination on any grounds, to lift discriminatory regulatory barriers prohibiting or limiting the activities of religious groups in Crimea, including but not limited to parishioners of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, Muslim Crimean Tatars and Jehovah's Witnesses, and to permit unimpeded access, without any undue restrictions, to places of worship as well as gatherings for prayer and other religious practices;

(o) To restore enjoyment of the rights of all individuals, without any discrimination based on origin or religion or belief, revoke the decisions that banned cultural and religious institutions, non-governmental organizations, human rights organizations and media outlets and restore enjoyment of the rights of individuals belonging to ethnic communities in temporarily occupied Crimea, in particular ethnic Ukrainians and Crimean Tatars, including the right to freely participate in the cultural life of the community;

(p) To respect, protect and fulfil the right to be free from arbitrary or unlawful interference with a person's privacy, family, home or correspondence;

(q) To ensure that the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of association can be exercised by all Crimean residents in any form, including single-person pickets, without any restrictions other than those permissible under international law, including international human rights law, and without discrimination on any grounds, and to end the practices of abusing requirements of prior authorization for peaceful assemblies and issuing warnings or threats to potential participants in those assemblies;

(r) To refrain from criminalizing the rights to hold opinions without interference and to freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly and quash all penalties imposed on Crimean residents for expressing dissenting views, including regarding the status of temporarily occupied Crimea and the unprovoked Russian aggression against Ukraine;

(s) To ensure the availability of education in the Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar languages, and stop the blocking of access to Ukrainian education;

(t) To respect the rights of the Indigenous Peoples of Ukraine set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, revoke immediately the decision declaring the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People an extremist organization and banning its activities, repeal the decision banning leaders of the Mejlis from entering Crimea, repeal the sentences, including in absentia, against Crimean Tatars and their leaders and immediately release those arbitrarily detained, including the leaders of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, and refrain from maintaining or imposing limitations on the ability of the Crimean Tatars to conserve their representative institutions;

(u) To stop the illegal drafting and mobilization of Crimean residents into the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, stop pressure aimed at compelling Crimean residents to serve in the armed or auxiliary forces of the Russian Federation, as well as using propaganda, also targeted at children and through the education system, and ensure strict compliance with its international obligations as an occupying Power;

(v) To end also the practice of criminal prosecution of inhabitants who resist conscription and mobilization into the armed or auxiliary forces of the Russian Federation;

(w) To end the practice of deporting Ukrainian citizens from Crimea for not taking Russian citizenship, stop transferring its own civilian population to Crimea and end the practice of encouraging such transfers;

(x) To immediately and unconditionally reverse the decision to simplify the procedure for obtaining Russian citizenship for Ukrainian orphans or children left without parental care;

(y) To provide to the relevant United Nations bodies and international organizations full information on Ukraine's children forcibly transferred or deported to the Russian Federation, including on those children who were

subsequently adopted or transferred to foster families, in order to ensure that these children are provided with protection and care in accordance with international law;

(z) To cease forcible transfers or deportation of Ukraine's children to the Russian Federation and take all necessary steps with a view to their safe return and family reunification in line with the best interests of the child and in accordance with international law;

(aa) To cooperate fully and immediately with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, which must have safe, secure and unhindered access to the entire territory of Ukraine, including the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, and the Council of Europe on the situation of human rights in Crimea;

(bb) To create the conditions, as well as provide the means, to allow for the voluntary, safe, dignified and unhindered return to their homes of all internally displaced persons and refugees affected by the temporary occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation;

(cc) To stop the policy of forcibly changing the demographic, including ethnic, composition of the population and take the necessary measures aimed at limiting the free migration of citizens of the Russian Federation to Crimea;

(dd) To ensure compliance with obligations under international law, including humanitarian law and the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,[749] regarding the preservation of monuments of the cultural heritage of Ukraine in Crimea, in particular regarding the Khan Palace in Bakhchysarai and the monument "The ancient city of Chersonese and its Chora", to prevent and stop reported illegal archaeological excavations on the territory of the Crimean peninsula, and the illicit transfer of cultural property of Ukraine outside the territory of Ukraine;

8. *Calls upon* the Russian Federation to address the substantive concerns and all recommendations highlighted in the reports of the Secretary-General and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as previous relevant recommendations from reports on the situation of human rights in Ukraine by the Office of the High Commissioner based on the work of the United Nations human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine established to prevent further deterioration of human rights in Crimea;

9. *Supports* the efforts of Ukraine to maintain economic, financial, political, social, informational, cultural and other ties with its citizens in Crimea in order to facilitate their access to democratic processes, economic opportunities and objective information;

10. *Calls upon* all international organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, when referring to Crimea in their official documents, communications, publications, information and reports, including with regard to statistical data of the Russian Federation or provided by the Russian Federation, as well as those placed or used on official United Nations Internet resources and platforms, to refer to "the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation", and to refer to bodies of the Russian Federation and their representatives in Crimea as "occupying authorities of the Russian Federation", and encourages all States and other international organizations to do the same;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to support human rights defenders in Crimea and across Ukraine and to continue advocacy for the respect of human rights, including by condemning the violations committed by the Russian Federation in the temporarily occupied Crimea at bilateral and multilateral forums;

12. *Also calls upon* Member States to engage constructively in concerted efforts, including within international frameworks and the International Crimea Platform, aimed at improving the human rights situation in the occupied peninsula, as well as to continue to use all diplomatic means to press and urge the Russian Federation to comply with its obligations under international human rights law and as an occupying Power under international humanitarian law and to grant unimpeded access to Crimea for established regional and international human rights

[749] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

monitoring mechanisms, in particular the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine;

13. *Condemns* all attempts by the Russian Federation to legitimize or normalize its attempted illegal annexation of Crimea and other territories of Ukraine, including the automatic imposition of citizenship of the Russian Federation, illegal election campaigns and voting, population census, forcible change of the demographic structure of the population and suppression of national identity;

14. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the work of the United Nations to uphold international human rights law and international humanitarian law in the temporarily occupied Crimea and other territories of Ukraine under temporary military control by the Russian Federation;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek ways and means, including through consultations with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant regional organizations, to ensure safe and unfettered access to Crimea and other territories of Ukraine temporarily controlled by the Russian Federation by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms, in particular the United Nations human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine and the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine, to enable them to carry out their mandates;

16. *Urges* the Russian Federation to ensure the proper and unimpeded access of international human rights monitoring missions and human rights non-governmental organizations to the temporarily occupied Crimea and other territories of Ukraine temporarily controlled by the Russian Federation, including all places where persons may be deprived of their liberty, recognizing that the international presence and monitoring of compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law are of paramount importance in preventing further deterioration of the situation;

17. *Decides* to include the item entitled "The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine" in the agenda of the General Assembly until the violations committed as a result of foreign occupation and control of parts of the territory of Ukraine are duly dealt with and the territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders is fully restored;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively seized of the matter and to take all steps necessary, including within the Secretariat, to ensure the full and effective coordination of all United Nations bodies with regard to the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide his good offices and pursue his discussions relating to the matter, involving all relevant stakeholders and including the concerns addressed in the present resolution;

20. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of all provisions of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation, and to submit for consideration an interim report to the Human Rights Council at its fifty-third session, to be followed by an interactive dialogue, in accordance with Council resolution 47/22 of 13 July 2021;[750]

21. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the matter at its seventy-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

[750] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/76/53), chap. VII, sect. A.

RESOLUTION 77/230

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 92 to 14, with 71 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/463/Add.3, para. 29)[751]

* *In favour:* Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen

Against: Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia

77/230. Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[752] and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenants on Human Rights,[753]

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and to the principles of the Charter, and strongly demanding that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population and to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all persons within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction,

Recalling its resolutions 66/176 of 19 December 2011, 66/253 A of 16 February 2012, 66/253 B of 3 August 2012, 67/183 of 20 December 2012, 67/262 of 15 May 2013, 68/182 of 18 December 2013, 69/189 of 18 December 2014, 70/234 of 23 December 2015, 71/130 of 9 December 2016, 71/203 of 19 December 2016, 71/248 of 21 December 2016, 73/182 of 17 December 2018, 74/169 of 18 December 2019, 74/262 of 27 December 2019, 75/193 of 16 December 2020 and 76/228 of 24 December 2021, Human Rights Council resolutions S-16/1 of 29 April 2011,[754] S-17/1 of 23 August 2011,[755] S-18/1 of 2 December 2011,[756] 19/1 of 1 March 2012,[757] 19/22 of

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[751] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[752] Resolution 217 A (III).

[753] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[754] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/66/53), chap. I.

[755] Ibid.

[756] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.2 and A/66/53/Add.2/Corr.1), chap. II.

[757] Ibid., *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and A/67/53/Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

23 March 2012,[758] S-19/1 of 1 June 2012,[759] 20/22 of 6 July 2012,[760] 21/26 of 28 September 2012,[761] 22/24 of 22 March 2013,[762] 23/1 of 29 May 2013,[763] 23/26 of 14 June 2013,[764] 24/22 of 27 September 2013,[765] 25/23 of 28 March 2014,[766] 26/23 of 27 June 2014,[767] 27/16 of 25 September 2014,[768] 28/20 of 27 March 2015,[769] 29/16 of 2 July 2015,[770] 30/10 of 1 October 2015,[771] 31/17 of 23 March 2016,[772] 32/25 of 1 July 2016,[773] 33/23 of 30 September 2016,[774] S-25/1 of 21 October 2016,[775] 34/26 of 24 March 2017,[776] 35/26 of 23 June 2017,[777] 36/20 of 29 September 2017,[778] 39/15 of 28 September 2018,[779] 40/17 of 22 March 2019,[780] 41/23 of 12 July 2019,[781] 42/27 of 27 September 2019,[782] 43/28 of 22 June 2020,[783] 44/21 of 17 July 2020,[784] 45/21 of 6 October 2020,[785] 46/22 of 24 March 2021,[786] 47/18 of 13 July 2021,[787] 48/15 of 8 October 2021,[788] 49/27 of 1 April 2022,[789] 50/19 of 8 July 2022[790] and 51/26 of 7 October 2022,[791] Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 2042 (2012) of 14 April 2012, 2043 (2012) of 21 April 2012, 2118 (2013) of 27 September 2013, 2139 (2014) of 22 February 2014, 2165 (2014) of 14 July 2014, 2170 (2014) of 15 August 2014, 2178 (2014) of 24 September 2014, 2191 (2014) of 17 December 2014, 2209 (2015) of 6 March 2015, 2235 (2015) of 7 August 2015, 2242 (2015) of 13 October 2015, 2254 (2015) of 18 December 2015, 2258 (2015) of 22 December 2015, 2268 (2016) of 26 February 2016, 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016, 2314 (2016) of 31 October 2016, 2319 (2016) of 17 November 2016, 2328 (2016) of 19 December 2016, 2332 (2016) of 21 December 2016, 2336 (2016) of 31 December 2016, 2393 (2017) of 19 December 2017, 2401 (2018) of 24 February 2018, 2449 (2018) of 13 December 2018, 2504 (2020) of 10 January 2020, 2533 (2020) of 11 July 2020, 2585 (2021) of 9 July 2021 and 2642 (2022) of 12 July 2022, and the statements

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[758] Ibid.

[759] Ibid., chap. V.

[760] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

[761] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[762] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[763] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[764] Ibid.

[765] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[766] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[767] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[768] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

[769] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. II.

[770] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[771] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/70/53/Add.1), chap. II.

[772] Ibid., *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/71/53), chap. II.

[773] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. A.

[774] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

[775] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.2 and A/71/53/Add.2/Corr.1), chap. II.

[776] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. II.

[777] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[778] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/72/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[779] Ibid., *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/73/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[780] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/74/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[781] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[782] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/74/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[783] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/75/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[784] Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

[785] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/75/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[786] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/76/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[787] Ibid., chap. VII, sect. A.

[788] Ibid. *Supplement No. 53A* (A/76/53/Add.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[789] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/77/53), chap. VI, sect. A.

[790] Ibid., chap. VIII, sect. A.

[791] Ibid., *Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

by the President of the Security Council of 3 August 2011,[792] 2 October 2013,[793] 17 August 2015[794] and 8 October 2019,[795]

Deploring the fact that March 2022 marked 11 years since the peaceful uprising and its brutal repression that led to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, which has had and continues to have a devastating impact on civilians, including through grave violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law,

Strongly condemning the grave human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, the indiscriminate killing and deliberate targeting of civilians, including humanitarian workers, including those involving the continued indiscriminate use of heavy weapons and aerial bombardments, which has caused more than 500,000 fatalities, including the killing of more than 29,000 children, the continued widespread and systematic gross violations, as well as abuses, of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including by the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare and the use of chemical weapons, including sarin and chlorine gas, and sulfur mustard, which are prohibited under international law, and acts of violence by the Syrian regime that foment sectarian tensions within the Syrian population,

Welcoming the work of the Investigation and Identification Team of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, noting its findings in its two reports to date, and anticipating the publication of its reports into further chemical weapons attacks, including those perpetrated in Mari‘ on 1 September 2015 and in Duma on 7 April 2018,

Noting with grave concern that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has identified 306,887 civilians by full name, together with an established date of death and location, who were killed in the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic between March 2011 and March 2022 and that, of those identified, 26,727 were women and 27,126 were children, recalling also that the list compiled by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights indicates a minimum verifiable number and is certainly an undercount of the actual number of killings,

Recalling its demand that all parties, especially the Syrian regime, take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, including members of ethnic and religious communities,

Reiterating that the only sustainable solution to the current crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic is through an inclusive and Syrian-led political process, under the auspices of the United Nations, that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people in line with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), with a view to establishing credible, inclusive and non-sectarian governance, with the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of all women and youth at all levels, welcoming the establishment of the Constitutional Committee, reaffirming in this regard the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, stressing the importance of their full, equal and meaningful participation and involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, and recognizing the work carried out by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria to that end,

Expressing concern that the implementation of Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015) and 2268 (2016) remains unresolved,

Reiterating the urgent need to strengthen efforts to address the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including through the protection of civilians and safe, full, immediate, unimpeded and sustained humanitarian access throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, including through the continuation of cross-border assistance, as recalled by the Security Council in its resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2286 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018), 2449 (2018), 2504 (2020), 2533 (2020), 2585 (2021) and 2642 (2022),

Welcoming the efforts of the Special Envoy to advance United Nations efforts to achieve a sustainable political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic in line with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), recalling the

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[792] S/PRST/2011/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2011–31 July 2012* (S/INF/67).

[793] S/PRST/2013/15; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014* (S/INF/69).

[794] S/PRST/2015/15; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2015–31 December 2016* (S/INF/71).

[795] S/PRST/2019/12.

importance of advancing the work of the Constitutional Committee and achieving tangible results, and in that regard urging all parties to engage meaningfully in the work of the Constitutional Committee, particularly the Syrian regime, and underlining that a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic requires full implementation of all aspects of resolution 2254 (2015), including the holding of free and fair elections, under the supervision of the United Nations, to the satisfaction of the governance and to the highest international standards of transparency and accountability, with all Syrians, including displaced persons, refugees and members of the diaspora, eligible to participate, as well as the establishment of a neutral and safe environment, noting that the 2021 presidential elections held in the Syrian Arab Republic were neither free, fair, nor consistent with the political process called for by the Council in its resolution 2254 (2015),

Reconfirming its endorsement of the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012,[796] endorsing the joint statement on the outcome of the multilateral talks on Syria held in Vienna of 30 October 2015 and the statement of the International Syria Support Group of 14 November 2015 (the Vienna statements) in pursuit of the full implementation of the Geneva communiqué, facilitated by the Special Envoy, as the basis for a Syrian-led and Syrian-owned political transition in order to end the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and stressing that the Syrian people will decide the future of the Syrian Arab Republic,

Welcoming the call made by the Secretary-General for a global ceasefire and that of the Special Envoy for a complete, immediate and nationwide ceasefire throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, as endorsed by the Security Council in its resolutions 2532 (2020) of 1 July 2020 and 2565 (2021) of 26 February 2021, and reaffirming that Member States must ensure that any measures taken to counter terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law, while continuing to support legitimate counter-terrorism operations against Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh), Al-Qaida and Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (formerly known as the Nusrah Front), and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida or ISIL, and other terrorist groups, which have been designated by the Security Council,

Urging all parties, particularly the Syrian regime, to engage meaningfully in the political process under the auspices of the Special Envoy and his office in Geneva, in line with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), and including the full, equal and meaningful participation and representation of women, and by girls as appropriate, in all efforts and decisions, expressing concern for the delays in the Syrian-led and Syrian-owned Constitutional Committee convened and facilitated by the Special Envoy in Geneva, and strongly urging the regime to engage in the United Nations-facilitated Constitutional Committee in line with the agreed terms of reference and rules of procedure,

Reaffirming the importance of the full implementation of the women, peace and security agenda of the Security Council, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), and its nine subsequent resolutions, in this regard, and welcoming the inclusion of civil society in the political process, in particular through the Civil Society Support Room and Syrian Women's Advisory Board,

Recognizing that women and girls have been disproportionately affected by conflict and continue to be among the worst affected and on multiple grounds, including women becoming the main or sole breadwinners for their families, a situation that may be exacerbated by the disappearance of their loved ones, while facing increased caregiving responsibilities and alarming levels of violence,

Noting with deep concern the culture of impunity from within the Syrian regime for the most serious violations of international law and violations and abuses of human rights law committed during the present conflict, some of which rise to the level of war crimes and crimes against humanity, which has provided a fertile ground for further violations and abuses,

Emphasizing the importance of accountability for the most serious crimes in violation of international law committed during the conflict for ensuring sustainable peace,

Recalling all relevant resolutions on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and the protection of United Nations personnel, including its resolution 73/137 of 14 December 2018, as well as Security Council resolutions on the protection of humanitarian personnel, including resolutions 2175 (2014) of 29 August 2014 and 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016, the relevant statements by the President of the Security Council referring to the specific

[796] Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), annex II.

obligations under international humanitarian law to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, all medical personnel and humanitarian workers exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport, equipment, hospitals and other medical facilities, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care and attention required, and condemning attacks against hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, including makeshift hospitals, as well as attacks against medical personnel and humanitarian workers that are in violation of international humanitarian law,

Expressing grave concern at the continued indiscriminate use of force by the Syrian regime against civilians, which continues to cause immense human suffering and fomented the spread of violent extremism and violent extremist groups and which demonstrates the continuing failure of the Syrian regime to protect the population and implement the relevant resolutions and decisions of United Nations bodies and has created a safe haven and operating environment for perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity,

Expressing grave concern also at the remaining presence of violent extremism and violent extremist groups, terrorists and terrorist groups, and strongly condemning all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic by any party to the conflict, in particular ISIL (also known as Da'esh), Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups, armed groups and non-State actors, and also the Syrian regime and its allies,

Expressing support for the work carried out by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, welcoming its reports, strongly condemning the continued lack of cooperation by the Syrian regime with the Commission of Inquiry, reiterating its decision to transmit the reports of the Commission of Inquiry to the Security Council, expressing its appreciation to the Commission of Inquiry for its briefings to members of the Security Council, and requesting that the Commission of Inquiry continue to brief the General Assembly and members of the Security Council,

Condemning in the strongest possible terms the fact that chemical weapons have been used repeatedly in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the instances independently attributed by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism and the Investigation and Identification Team of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, noting that the Joint Investigative Mechanism concluded that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces had been responsible for attacks that released toxic substances in 2014 and 2015 and that ISIL (also known as Da'esh) had used sulfur mustard in 2015 and 2016, and further concluded in October 2017 that the Syrian Arab Air Force had been responsible for the use of chemical weapons on 4 April 2017 in Khan Shaykhun, and noting also that the Investigation and Identification Team concluded in April 2020 that there were reasonable grounds to believe that the Syrian Air Force had carried out three chemical weapons attacks in Ltamenah in March 2017 and further concluded in April 2021 that there were reasonable grounds to believe the Syrian Air Force had carried out a chemical weapons attack in Saraqib in February 2018,

Welcoming the reports for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 of the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011[797] and their consideration by the General Assembly, noting with serious concern the observation of the Commission of Inquiry that, since March 2011, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Syrian regime has conducted widespread and systemic attacks against the civilian population amounting to war crimes and crimes against humanity, including targeted attacks on protected persons and objects, including medical facilities, and personnel and transport and blocked humanitarian convoys, as well as enforced disappearances, torture in detention, arbitrary detentions, summary executions and other violations and abuses, and underscoring the need for those allegations to be examined and evidence to be collected and made available for future accountability efforts,

Noting with serious concern the findings of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic that non-State armed groups still resort to the use of force against civilians,

Expressing grave concern about all persons missing as a result of the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including those subject to abductions, enforced disappearance and arbitrary detention, first and foremost by the Syrian regime, noting the comments of the Commission of Inquiry and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria

[797] A/73/295, A/73/741, A/74/313, A/74/699, A/75/311, A/75/743 and A/76/690.

that at least 100,000 people are estimated to be missing in the Syrian Arab Republic, recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 45/3 of 6 October 2020,[798] 48/15 and 51/26 and Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015), 2139 (2014) and 2191 (2014) in this regard, and encouraging all parties to enhance engagement with the Office of the Special Envoy on the issue of arbitrary detention, as action to address enforced disappearance and arbitrary detention is intrinsically linked to protecting the rights of all Syrians and a lasting political settlement in the Syrian Arab Republic,

Strongly condemning the reported killing of detainees in Syrian military intelligence facilities and the widespread practice of enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and the use of sexual and gender-based violence and torture in detention centres referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry,

Noting that, consistent with Security Council resolution 2474 (2019) of 11 June 2019, States bear the primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of all individuals within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction, and that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible measures to account for persons reported missing as a result of hostilities and to put in place appropriate channels enabling response and communication with families on the search process, and noting also that, in the same resolution, the Council called upon parties to armed conflict to take steps to prevent persons from going missing as a result of armed conflict,

Urging the Syrian regime to provide families with the remains of their relatives whose fate has been disclosed, including those who have been summarily executed, to take all appropriate measures immediately to protect the lives and rights of all persons currently detained or unaccounted for, and to clarify the fate of those who remain missing or are still in custody, in accordance with Security Council resolution 2474 (2019), many of whom still remain in detention and are highly vulnerable to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) owing to overcrowded conditions and pre-existing health issues, such as widespread malnutrition and tuberculosis, despite calls from the Secretary-General, the Special Envoy and the international community for the large-scale release of detainees in the Syrian Arab Republic to mitigate the spread of the virus,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on missing persons in the Syrian Arab Republic,[799] and underscoring the report's finding that any measure towards addressing the continuing tragedy of missing persons in the Syrian Arab Republic requires a coherent and holistic approach going beyond current efforts, which must be inclusive and centred on victims,

Recalling the statements made by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that crimes against humanity and war crimes are likely to have been committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, noting the repeated encouragement by the High Commissioner for the Security Council to refer the situation to the International Criminal Court, and regretting that a draft resolution[800] was not adopted, notwithstanding broad support from Member States,

Recalling also the report of 6 April 2020 of the United Nations Board of Inquiry[801] into strikes that damaged and destroyed health-care facilities in the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic, including sites whose coordinates had been recorded on the United Nations deconfliction list as a step to ensure that they would not be targeted or impacted by violence, and which in most instances examined, concluded that it was "highly probable that the strikes had been carried out by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and/or its allies" and found that health-care services were being provided at the time of some of the strikes and that there were no armed opposition groups in or near the facilities, and calling upon all parties to adhere to and comply with the deconfliction mechanism,

Recalling further the report of March 2021 of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry[802] reporting regime and pro-regime forces' indiscriminate bombardment of civilian populated areas and deliberate targeting of hospitals and medical facilities, and areas with large civilian concentrations, including markets, schools and neighbourhoods, and concluding that government forces had committed war crimes and crimes against humanity in the conduct of their use of air strikes and artillery shelling of civilian areas,

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[798] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/75/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[799] A/76/890.

[800] S/2014/348.

[801] See S/2020/278, annex.

[802] A/HRC/46/55.

Emphasizing that the humanitarian cross-border mechanism remains an essential and life-saving channel to address the humanitarian needs of a significant portion of the population of the Syrian Arab Republic, which cannot be reached through existing operations within the Syrian Arab Republic, and emphasizing the importance of cross-line operations and that an immediate and significant improvement in cross-line access to all parts of the Syrian Arab Republic and respect for principled humanitarian action are essential to prevent further unnecessary suffering and loss of life,

Recalling its commitment to Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2253 (2015) of 17 December 2015,

Alarmed that more than 5.6 million refugees, including more than 3.8 million women and children, have been forced to flee the Syrian Arab Republic and that 11.1 million people in the Syrian Arab Republic, of whom 6.6 million are internally displaced, require urgent humanitarian assistance, which has resulted in an influx of Syrian refugees into neighbouring countries, other countries in the region and beyond, and alarmed also at the risk the situation presents to regional and international stability,

Calling for the immediate repeal of Law No. 10/2018, concerned about the Syrian regime's infringement on the housing, land and property of Syrians, particularly through the dispossession of displaced Syrians' land and property in the national legislation and similar measures, which would have a significant detrimental impact on the rights of Syrians displaced by the conflict to claim their property and to return to their homes in a safe, voluntary and dignified manner when the situation on the ground allows it, and expressing concern about reports of armed groups' abuses of Syrians' housing, land and property rights in areas under their control,

Expressing its profound indignation at the death of more than 29,000 children and the many more injured since the beginning of the peaceful protests in March 2011, and at all violations and abuses committed against children, in particular by the Syrian regime, in contravention of applicable international law, including those involving their recruitment and use, abduction, killing and maiming and rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, attacks on schools and hospitals, and denial of humanitarian access, as well as their arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and ill-treatment and their use as human shields, and noting in this regard the adoption on 18 July 2019 of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict conclusions on children and armed conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic[803] as well as the report of 13 January 2020 of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry entitled "They have erased the dreams of my children: children's rights in the Syrian Arab Republic", and emphasizing that the Syrian regime and its allies must comply with their applicable international law obligations that are relevant to children, including under the Convention on the Rights of the Child[804] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[805]

Noting with concern that the Hawl camp currently hosts over 58,000 people, 93 per cent of whom are women and children, including some 35,000 children under 12 years of age who live under extremely challenging conditions,

Welcoming Security Council resolution 2475 (2019) of 20 June 2019 on the situation of persons with disabilities in armed conflict, expressing serious concern regarding the disproportionate impact that armed conflict has on persons with disabilities, including abandonment, violence and lack of access to basic services, stressing the protection and assistance needs of all affected civilian populations, and emphasizing the need to consider the particular needs of persons with disabilities in humanitarian response in the Syrian conflict,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the significant efforts that have been made by neighbouring countries and other countries in the region to accommodate Syrians, while acknowledging the increasing financial, socioeconomic and political impact of the presence of large-scale refugee and displaced populations in those countries,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations and the League of Arab States and all diplomatic efforts to achieve a political solution to the Syrian crisis based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012 and consistent with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015),

1. *Strongly condemns* the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic and the

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[803] S/AC.51/2019/1.

[804] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[805] Ibid., vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks against the civilian population and against civilian infrastructure, in particular attacks on medical facilities and schools, which continue to claim civilian lives, and demands that all parties comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law;

2. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued armed violence by the Syrian regime against the Syrian people since the beginning of the peaceful protests in 2011, and demands that the Syrian regime immediately put an end to all attacks against civilians, take all feasible precautions to avoid, and in any event to minimize, incidental loss of civilian life, injury to civilians and damage to civilian objects and meet its responsibilities to protect the Syrian population and immediately implement Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015), 2258 (2015) and 2286 (2016);

3. *Urges* all Member States to create conditions for continued negotiations for a political solution to the Syrian conflict, under the auspices of the United Nations, and to this end recalls the importance of advancing the work of the Constitutional Committee, within the context of the United Nations-facilitated Geneva process, and achieving tangible results, and in that regard urging all parties to engage meaningfully in the work of the Constitutional Committee, as well as by working towards the nationwide ceasefire, to enable safe, full, immediate, unimpeded and sustained humanitarian access and to lead to the release of those arbitrarily detained and ensure the assessment of the number of people who remain in prisons, consistent with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), as only a durable and inclusive political solution to the conflict can bring an end to the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law;

4. *Strongly condemns* the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, demands that all parties desist from any use or preparation of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, expresses its strong conviction that those responsible for the use of chemical weapons must be held accountable, and recalls in this regard decision C-25/DEC.9 of 21 April 2021 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

5. *Welcomes* the establishment and operationalization of the Investigation and Identification Team of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, which is authorized to identify the perpetrators of the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, thereby making an important contribution towards the ultimate goal of holding such perpetrators to account;

6. *Demands* that the Syrian regime adhere fully to its international obligations, including the requirement that it declare in full its chemical weapons programme, with special emphasis on the need for the Syrian Arab Republic to urgently resolve the verified gaps, inconsistencies and discrepancies pertaining to its declaration in respect of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction and to eliminate its chemical weapons programme in its entirety;[806]

7. *Requests* that the Executive Council of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons consider additional procedures for stringent verification pursuant to article IV, paragraph 8, and article V, paragraph 10, of the Convention, in order to ensure the complete destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons programme and prevent any further use of chemical weapons;

8. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued widespread and systematic gross violations and abuses of human rights and fundamental freedoms and all violations of international humanitarian law by the Syrian regime, the government-affiliated militias and those who fight on their behalf, including those deliberately targeting civilians or civilian objects, attacks on schools, hospitals, civilian water stations and places of worship, indiscriminate attacks with heavy weapons, aerial bombardments, cluster munitions, ballistic missiles, barrel bombs, chemical or other weapons and other force targeting civilians, as well as the starvation of the civilian population as a method of warfare, massacres, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, the killing of peaceful protesters, human rights defenders and journalists, individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, forced displacement of members of minority groups and of those opposed to the Syrian regime, unlawful interference with access to medical treatment, failure to respect and protect medical personnel, torture, systematic sexual and gender-based violence, including rape in detention, and

[806] Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), annex I.

ill-treatment, other violations and abuses of human rights, including those of women and children, and violations of international humanitarian law;

9. *Condemns unequivocally* all attacks and violence against journalists and media workers by the Syrian regime, the government-affiliated militias and non-State armed groups, urges all parties to respect the professional independence and rights of journalists, and recalls in this regard that journalists and media workers engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered civilians and shall be protected as such, provided that they take no action adversely affecting their status as civilians;

10. *Strongly condemns* all violations and abuses of human rights and all violations of international humanitarian law, including the killing and persecution of individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, by armed non-State actors, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by non-State armed groups, including Hizbullah and those designated as terrorist groups by the Security Council;

11. *Deplores and strongly condemns* the terrorist acts and violence committed against civilians by ISIL (also known as Da'esh), Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham (formerly known as the Nusrah Front), Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups, terrorist groups, such as Hurras al-Din, designated by the Security Council and other violent extremist groups and their continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and reaffirms that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, gender, ethnicity, nationality or civilization;

12. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the gross and systematic abuse of women's and children's rights by terrorist groups and armed groups, including so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), in particular those involving the killing of women and girls, sexual and gender-based violence, including the enslavement and sexual exploitation and abuse of women and girls and the recruitment, use and abduction of children;

13. *Condemns* the reported forced displacements of the population in the Syrian Arab Republic, including forced displacement of civilians as a result of local truce agreements, as highlighted by the Commission of Inquiry, and the alarming impact thereof on the demography of the country, which amounts to a strategy of radical demographic change initiated by the Syrian regime, its allies and other non-State actors, calls upon all parties concerned to cease immediately all activities related to these actions, including any activities that may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, notes that impunity for such crimes is unacceptable, reaffirms that those responsible for such breaches of international law must be brought to justice, and supports efforts to collect evidence in view of future legal action;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of creating conditions conducive to voluntary, safe, dignified and informed movements of internally displaced persons within the Syrian Arab Republic, and strongly urges all parties to work with the United Nations to ensure that any such movements are in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[807] and that displaced persons receive the information they need to make informed and voluntary decisions about their movement and safety;

15. *Condemns* the reported forced displacement of populations in the Syrian Arab Republic, expresses deep concern at reports of social and demographic engineering in areas throughout the country, and calls upon all parties concerned to cease immediately all activities that cause these actions, including any activities that may amount to war crimes or crimes against humanity;

16. *Reminds* the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic of its obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[808] including its obligation to take effective measures to prevent acts of torture in any territory under its jurisdiction, and calls upon all States parties to the Convention to comply with any relevant obligations under the Convention, including with respect to the obligation to extradite or prosecute contained in article 7 of the Convention;

17. *Deplores* the continued closure of the Bab al-Salam and Ya'rubiyah border crossings for the purpose of cross-border humanitarian aid, expresses its concern regarding the limited renewal of the cross-border resolution for

[807] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[808] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

only six months, which is considered unsustainable and insufficient, considering growing humanitarian needs as winter approaches, noting that needs have increased to the highest levels since 2011, with more than 14.6 million Syrians in need, according to the United Nations, and urges the Security Council to renew the cross-border mechanism by January 2023 and to reauthorize the use of these border crossings for at least 12 months, emphasizes that more than 6.9 million people live in areas not under the control of the Syrian regime and 5.3 million require humanitarian assistance in the north-east and north-west, and considers with great concern the serious threats posed by the recent outbreak of cholera, which disproportionately affects those who are already most vulnerable, and that the cross-border mechanism remains an indispensable tool to address the humanitarian needs of the population, including to deliver vaccines and supplies to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, which cannot be adequately reached through existing operations within the Syrian Arab Republic;

18. *Demands* that the Syrian regime and all other parties to the conflict not hinder safe, full, timely, immediate, unrestricted and sustained humanitarian access, and calls for the continuation of cross-border humanitarian support beyond January 2023 and for at least 12 months;

19. *Strongly condemns* the persistent and widespread use of sexual and gender-based violence, abuse and exploitation, such as in government detention centres, including those run by the intelligence agencies, reaffirms that acts of sexual and gender-based violence, when committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against any civilian population, can constitute crimes against humanity, and that acts of sexual and gender-based violence in situations of armed conflict can constitute war crimes, reaffirms the need to end impunity through the prosecution of perpetrators of sexual and gender-based crimes under national and international law, stresses the need for the perpetrators of these crimes to be held accountable by national justice systems or, where applicable, international courts and tribunals, notes that such acts may constitute violations of international humanitarian law, violations of international human rights law and abuses of human rights, in this regard expresses deep concern at the prevailing climate of impunity for sexual and gender-based violence, urges all parties to the conflict, especially the Syrian regime, to immediately cease the perpetration of sexual and gender-based violence, and urges the Syrian regime to ensure that victims and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence have access to holistic support and are able to seek reparations and redress;

20. *Also strongly condemns* all violations and abuses committed against children in contravention of applicable international law, including those involving their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, rape and all other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, child, early and forced marriage, abductions, denial of humanitarian access and education for children, and attacks on civilian objects, including schools and hospitals, as well as their arbitrary arrest, unlawful detention, torture and ill-treatment and their use as human shields;

21. *Urges* the Syrian regime to comply with its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

22. *Reaffirms* the Syrian regime's responsibility for the systematic use of enforced disappearances, takes note of the assessment of the Commission of Inquiry that the Syrian regime's use of enforced disappearances amounts to a crime against humanity, and condemns the targeted disappearances of young men and boys and the exploitation of ceasefires as an opportunity to forcibly recruit and arbitrarily detain them;

23. *Expresses deep concern* that, according to the recent findings of the Commission of Inquiry, the Syrian regime forces continue to deliberately conceal the fate and whereabouts of forcibly disappeared persons, intentionally prolonging the suffering of hundreds of thousands of family members of the forcibly disappeared, and strongly calls upon the Syrian regime to provide information on detained, missing or forcibly disappeared persons to their families;

24. *Encourages* all parties to the conflict to enhance their engagement with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria to hasten the release of all arbitrarily detained persons by the Syrian regime and to make progress on the issue of missing persons;

25. *Strongly condemns* all attacks on the wounded and sick and on medical, health and humanitarian personnel, facilities and means of transport and equipment, as well as indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks on civilians, civilian objects, schools and water stations, taking place in the Syrian Arab Republic, which may constitute war crimes, as well as the intentional denial of humanitarian assistance to civilians, and demands that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population in accordance with its obligations under relevant provisions of international human rights law and international humanitarian law;

26. *Also strongly condemns* the targeting of humanitarian workers and persons engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment and hospitals and other medical facilities, which may constitute war crimes,

including the attack against the deconflicted Atarib cave hospital on 21 March 2021 and the terrorist attack against Al-Shifa' hospital on 12 June 2021;

27. *Demands* that the Syrian regime cooperate fully with the Commission of Inquiry, including by granting it immediate, full, safe, unhindered and sustained access throughout the Syrian Arab Republic;

28. *Strongly condemns* the intervention in the Syrian Arab Republic of all foreign terrorist fighters and those foreign organizations and foreign forces fighting on behalf of the Syrian regime, expresses deep concern that their involvement further exacerbates the deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the human rights and humanitarian situation, which has a serious negative impact on the region, and further demands that all foreign terrorist fighters, and those who are fighting in support of the Syrian regime, including all militias sponsored by foreign Governments, must immediately withdraw from the Syrian Arab Republic;

29. *Demands* that all parties immediately put an end to all violations of international human rights law, abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law and take all appropriate steps to protect and cease any attacks on civilians and civilian objects;

30. *Emphasizes* the need for accountability for crimes involving breaches of international law, in particular of international humanitarian law and human rights law, some of which may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity, committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011, through fair and independent investigations and prosecutions at the domestic or international level;

31. *Requests* the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to submit an annual report to the General Assembly, starting at its seventy-fifth session, on the implementation of its mandate while preserving the confidential nature of its substantive work, in time for the annual presentation of the report by the Head of the Mechanism in April at a plenary meeting of the Assembly under the agenda item entitled "Prevention of armed conflict";

32. *Welcomes* efforts by the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to assist in the search for missing persons in the Syrian context, as stated in the Mechanism's reports to the General Assembly, and further encourages the Mechanism to identify additional ways and means to contribute to this end;

33. *Also welcomes* the victim/survivor-centred approach practised by the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism, and commends its model of engagement with victim and survivor groups, as well as civil society in general, through bilateral cooperation and regular consultations;

34. *Further welcomes* the full funding for the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism and continued support to the Mechanism through the programme budget to ensure the effective discharge of its mandate;

35. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure that all those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law or violations and abuses of human rights law are held to account through appropriate, fair and independent domestic or international criminal justice mechanisms, stresses the need to pursue practical steps towards this goal, and for that reason encourages the Security Council to take appropriate action to ensure accountability, noting the important role that the International Criminal Court can play in this regard in accordance with complementarity;

36. *Welcomes* the efforts by States to investigate conduct in the Syrian Arab Republic and to prosecute crimes within their jurisdiction committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, encourages them to continue to do so and to share relevant information between States in accordance with their national legislation and international law, and also encourages other States to consider doing the same;

37. *Urgently requests* the Commission of Inquiry to present its latest reporting to the General Assembly during an interactive dialogue at its seventy-eighth session on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic, and encourages United Nations monitoring and reporting to further document violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, including those that may amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes, to provide recommendations to facilitate improvements in civilian protection and accountability measures, and to feature witness testimony of Syrian human rights defenders, survivors of torture and sexual and gender-based violence, former detainees, and other Syrian voices through appropriate and safe means, and where informed consent has been provided;

38. *Deplores* the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the international community to assume its responsibility for providing urgent financial support to enable the host countries and

communities to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of Syrian refugees, while emphasizing the importance of burden-sharing;

39. *Calls upon* all members of the international community, including all donors, to fulfil their previous pledges and continue to provide much-needed support to the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other humanitarian actors to provide humanitarian and medical assistance to the millions of Syrians who are in need, including those displaced both internally and in host countries and communities;

40. *Welcomes* the efforts of those countries outside the region that have put in place measures and policies to assist and host Syrian refugees, encourages them to do more, also encourages other States outside the region to consider implementing similar measures and policies, with a view to providing Syrian refugees with protection and humanitarian assistance, acknowledges the need to improve the conditions on the ground to facilitate the return of refugees in a safe, voluntary, informed and dignified manner to their place of origin or another location of their choice, and takes note of the recent finding of the Commission of Inquiry that the Syrian Arab Republic does not yet offer a safe and stable environment for the sustainable and dignified return of refugees or for the 6.7 million displaced persons inside the country;

41. *Demands* that the Syrian regime and all other parties to the conflict ensure the full, immediate, unimpeded and sustained safe and unhindered access of the United Nations and humanitarian actors, including to besieged and hard-to-reach areas such as Rukban, that the Syrian regime cease to impede the ability of the United Nations and humanitarian actors to move through the north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic and beyond, especially in the light of the restricted humanitarian space and worsened humanitarian situation following the failure to reauthorize the Ya'rubiyah border crossing in Security Council resolutions 2504 (2020), 2533 (2020), 2585 (2021) and 2642 (2022) and that all parties preserve the Fish Khabur border crossing and other crossing points along the Turkish borders with the Syrian Arab Republic, and allow sustained deliveries of humanitarian assistance to persons in need across the Syrian Arab Republic, including through commercial routes, consistent with Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2254 (2015), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018), 2449 (2018), 2504 (2020), 2533 (2020), 2585 (2021) and 2642 (2022);

42. *Strongly condemns* the reported killing of detainees in Syrian military intelligence facilities, and calls upon the Syrian regime to release all unlawfully held detainees, including women, children and the elderly, and to facilitate information about those still in detention as well as those who died while in detention by the Syrian regime, returning their remains, with full transparency regarding what happened to these individuals, and urges the regime to immediately reverse its abhorrent use of mass detentions and torture as means of silencing and repressing political opposition, journalists and other media workers and of depriving Syrian citizens of their rights to freedom of expression;

43. *Calls for* the appropriate international monitoring bodies to be granted access to detainees in all prisons and detention centres, including all military facilities referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry;

44. *Demands* that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect the population lies with the Syrian regime;

45. *Strongly condemns* the damage and destruction of the cultural heritage of the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular that of Palmyra and Aleppo, and the organized looting and trafficking of Syrian cultural property, as outlined by the Security Council in its resolutions 2199 (2015) of 12 February 2015 and 2347 (2017) of 24 March 2017, affirms that attacks intentionally directed against historic monuments may amount to war crimes, and underlines the need to bring the perpetrators of such crimes to justice;

46. *Deplores* the military offensive that began in Idlib Province and surrounding areas in December 2019 and caused large-scale injuries, deaths, displacement and suffering in the civilian population and devastating damage to civilian infrastructure, recalls the findings of the United Nations Board of Inquiry established by the Secretary-General in this regard, notes with grave concern the recent findings of the Commission of Inquiry that there are reasonable grounds to believe that war crimes and crimes against humanity were committed during the said offensive, also notes the Commission's comments on the gendered impact of the military offensive, and remains extremely concerned about the situation;

47. *Notes with concern* the continued insecurity in the north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic, the significant increase in humanitarian needs and the restricted humanitarian space following the failure to reauthorize the

Ya'rubiyah border crossing, in Security Council resolutions 2504 (2020), 2533 (2020) and 2585 (2021), further compounded by lack of access to water and electricity, which continues to undermine the stability and security of the whole region, eroding progress in the fight against ISIL (also known as Da'esh) and worsening the humanitarian situation and humanitarian actors' ability to respond to humanitarian needs;

48. *Stresses* the situation of particular concern in north-west Syrian Arab Republic, particularly Idlib, strongly condemns the attacks on civilians and first responders and civilian infrastructure where ongoing violence, including air strikes, continues to cause death and injury among civilians and first responders, as well as devastating damage to civilian infrastructure, including health-care and educational facilities, and welcomes the establishment of the United Nations Board of Inquiry mandated to investigate the destruction of and damage to facilities on the United Nations deconfliction list and United Nations-supported facilities;

49. *Expresses concern* about reports of attacks on civilians in areas such as Daraa that supported peaceful protests in 2011, and the siege-like conditions in Daraa that have displaced 40,000 people and resulted in acute food and medicine shortages, and targeted assassinations of civilian leaders including former judges, medical workers and others engaged in reconciliation negotiations, noting that the Chair of the Commission of Inquiry reported in June 2021 that at least 130 such incidents had been recorded between July 2020 and April 2021, underscoring the pervasively unstable environment;

50. *Expresses deep concern* in particular about the violence in the north-west, including air strikes, and the impact on civilians of that violence, stresses the urgent need for the immediate cessation of military hostilities in Idlib and the surrounding areas, for the prioritization of the protection of all civilians, including those displaced, and for full, timely, immediate, unrestricted and safe humanitarian access, including cross-border access, recalls the Additional Protocol to the Memorandum on the Stabilization of the Situation in the Idlib De-escalation Area, signed by the Russian Federation and Turkey on 5 March 2020, and stresses the importance of continuing work towards preserving calm on the ground and creating the necessary conditions for the safe, dignified and voluntary returns of displaced people;

51. *Calls upon* all Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, international organizations and civil society to coordinate further efforts and proactively focus attention on the issue of missing persons in the Syrian Arab Republic, including those subjected to enforced disappearance, and recalls the importance of the full and meaningful participation of victims, survivors and their families in such efforts;

52. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on missing persons in the Syrian Arab Republic, supports its findings and notes with appreciation its recommendations, in this regard expresses its intention to take further action on the matter and to ensure that survivors and their families are included throughout the process, and therefore requests an informal briefing in the form of an interactive dialogue from the Secretary-General before 28 February 2023;

53. *Urges* all parties to the conflict to take all appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, personnel of the specialized agencies and all other personnel engaged in humanitarian relief activities, including national and locally recruited personnel, as required by international humanitarian law, without prejudice to their freedom of movement and access, stresses the need not to impede or hinder these efforts, recalls that attacks on humanitarian workers may amount to war crimes, and notes in this regard that the Security Council has reaffirmed that it will take further measures in the event of non-compliance with its resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2234 (2015), 2258 (2015), 2286 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018), 2449 (2018), 2585 (2021) and 2642 (2022) by any Syrian party;

54. *Urges* the international community to support the leadership and full, effective and meaningful participation of women in all efforts aimed at finding a political solution to the Syrian crisis, as envisaged by the Security Council in its resolution 1325 (2000) and all subsequent resolutions of the women, peace and security agenda;

55. *Reaffirms* that there can only be a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, reiterates its commitment to the national unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the parties to the conflict to abstain from actions that may contribute to the continuing deterioration of the human rights, security and humanitarian situation, in order to reach a genuine political transition, based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012, consistent with Security Council resolutions 2254 (2015), 2268 (2016) and 2585 (2021), that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people for a civil, democratic and pluralistic State, with the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of all women at all levels, where there is no room for

sectarianism or discrimination on ethnic, religious, linguistic, gender or any other grounds, and where all persons receive equal protection, regardless of gender, religion or ethnicity, and further demands that all parties work urgently towards the comprehensive implementation of the final communiqué, including through the establishment of an inclusive transitional governing body with full executive powers, which shall be formed on the basis of mutual consent while ensuring the continuity of governmental institutions.

RESOLUTION 77/231

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/464, para. 31)[809]

77/231. Follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing the responsibility assumed by the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 155 C (VII) of 13 August 1948 and General Assembly resolution 415 (V) of 1 December 1950,

Acknowledging that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, as major intergovernmental forums, have influenced national policies and practices and promoted international cooperation in that field by facilitating the exchange of views and experience, mobilizing public opinion and recommending policy options at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991, in the annex to which Member States affirmed that the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice should be held every five years and should provide a forum for, inter alia, the exchange of views between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines, the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, in which it stressed that all countries should promote policies consistent and coherent with the commitments of major United Nations conferences and summits, emphasized that the United Nations system had an important responsibility to assist Governments in staying fully engaged in the follow-up to and implementation of agreements and commitments reached at major United Nations conferences and summits and invited the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system to further promote the implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling further its decision 74/550 A of 13 April 2020, in which it noted with concern the situation concerning the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and decided to postpone the holding of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and its decision 74/550 B of 12 August 2020, in which it decided to hold the Fourteenth Congress in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021 and requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to give high priority at its thirtieth session to considering the declaration of the Fourteenth Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session,

Recalling its resolution 76/181 of 16 December 2021, in which it endorsed the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Fourteenth Congress, and requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to review the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration under the standing item on its agenda

[809] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee on the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council.

entitled "Follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice",

Encouraged by the success of the Fourteenth Congress as one of the largest and most diverse forums for the exchange of views on and experiences in research, law and policy and programme development between States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Stressing the importance of undertaking all preparatory activities for the Fifteenth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[810]

2. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments to take into consideration the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[811] adopted by the Fourteenth Congress, when formulating legislation and policy directives and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Japan to work with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in ensuring appropriate follow-up to the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration;

4. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in accordance with its mandate, to continue implementing the appropriate policy and operational measures for the follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration, including through the holding of intersessional thematic discussions to facilitate the sharing of information, good practices and lessons learned among Member States and relevant stakeholders, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

5. *Decides* to hold the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2026, without prejudice to the timing of subsequent United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice and with a view to maintaining the five-year cycle of the congresses, in the light of the intensive follow-up process undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration;

6. *Invites* Member States to provide their suggestions in relation to the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops for the Fifteenth Congress, and requests the Secretary-General to include those suggestions in the report on the follow-up to the Fourteenth Congress and preparations for the Fifteenth Congress to be submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirty-second session;

7. *Recommends* that, building on the experience and the success of the Fourteenth Congress, all efforts be made to ensure that the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops for the Fifteenth Congress are interrelated and that the agenda items and workshop topics are streamlined and limited in number, and encourages the holding of side events that are focused on and complement the agenda items and workshops;

8. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to approve at its thirty-second session the overall theme, the agenda items and the topics for the workshops for the Fifteenth Congress;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[810] E/CN.15/2022/11.

[811] Resolution 76/181, annex.

RESOLUTION 77/232

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/464, para. 31)[812]

77/232. Reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and reintegration

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcome of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, as reflected in the report of the Congress[813] and in the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[814]

Reaffirming the commitment expressed in the Kyoto Declaration to reduce reoffending through rehabilitation and social reintegration,

Noting the deliberations of the Fourteenth Congress under the agenda item entitled "Integrated approaches to challenges facing the criminal justice system", during which, inter alia, the need for practical guidance for national criminal justice systems on reducing reoffending and the recommendation to develop new United Nations standards and norms on the issue of reducing reoffending were raised by some Member States,

Noting also the discussions held at the workshop on the topic "Reducing reoffending: identifying risks and developing solutions" and the three subtopics, as reflected in the report of Committee II of the Fourteenth Congress, in particular the encouragement given by some participants to Member States to share information on promising practices and consider the development, under the auspices of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, of model strategies to reduce reoffending that reflect, among others, the good practices discussed during the workshop,[815]

Recalling its resolution 76/182 of 16 December 2021, in which it encouraged Member States to promote the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders and requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene an expert group meeting to share information on promising practices to reduce reoffending, with a view to developing model strategies on reducing reoffending that could serve as useful tools for Member States, taking into account relevant provisions in the existing standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, current developments, research, tools and the outcome of the deliberations of the Fourteenth Congress,

Recalling also the standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice adopted or recommended by the General Assembly, including the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[816] the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules)[817] and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules),[818] and at the same time acknowledging the need for standards and norms specifically focusing on reducing reoffending,

Noting the efforts taken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to implement General Assembly resolution 76/182, namely through convening, with the support of the Government of Japan, an online expert group meeting, during which a limited number of experts, participating in their individual capacity, met from 6 to 8 April 2022 to share information on promising practices and to identify a set of key elements to be considered for inclusion in draft model strategies on reducing reoffending,

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[812] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee on the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council.

[813] A/CONF.234/16.

[814] Resolution 76/181, annex.

[815] A/CONF.234/16, chap. VII, sect. B.

[816] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[817] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[818] Resolution 45/110, annex.

1. *Encourages* Member States to develop comprehensive strategies or action plans to reduce reoffending through effective interventions for the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders;

2. *Also encourages* Member States to promote a rehabilitative environment in correctional facilities, including through designing and implementing effective treatment programmes based on an individual assessment of the needs of and risks faced by offenders, and to provide offenders with access to vocational and technical training and educational programmes to support them in developing the skills necessary for reintegration;

3. *Further encourages* Member States, as appropriate and in line with domestic legislation, to take into account the relevant and appropriate United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems, support the development of necessary skills among offenders in correctional facilities and facilitate working opportunities, where appropriate, to promote the social rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders;

4. *Recognizes* the benefit that may be derived from incorporating respect for cultural diversity, based on respect for the rule of law, into rehabilitation and reintegration programmes;

5. *Encourages* Member States to promote rehabilitation approaches and programmes within their judicial systems empowered to deal with specific problems, such as social or mental health issues;

6. *Also encourages* Member States to promote a rehabilitative environment in the community to facilitate the social reintegration of offenders with the active involvement of local communities, giving due regard to the need to protect society and individuals and the rights of victims and offenders;

7. *Further encourages* Member States to promote multi-stakeholder partnerships to reduce reoffending by fostering inter-agency coordination among relevant government authorities, such as employment and social welfare agencies and local governments, as well as public-private partnerships between those authorities and the community, including cooperating employers and community volunteers who support the long-term and social reintegration of offenders;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to convene a meeting of an open-ended intergovernmental expert group, with interpretation in all official languages of the United Nations, with a view to developing model strategies on reducing reoffending that can serve as useful tools for Member States, taking into consideration relevant provisions in the existing United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, current developments, research and tools, written contributions from Member States and, without prejudice, the output of the expert group meeting held from 6 to 8 April 2022;

9. *Encourages* Member States to share with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, through written contributions, information on promising practices for possible inclusion in draft model strategies on reducing reoffending, for consideration by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group;

10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to support the efforts of Member States to reduce reoffending through the promotion of rehabilitative environments and reintegration by providing technical assistance, including material support, upon request, to Member States, in particular developing countries, taking into account their needs and priorities, as well as challenges and restrictions;

11. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes outlined in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its session following the meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on the outcome of that meeting, as well as to the General Assembly, as appropriate.

RESOLUTION 77/233

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/464, para. 31)[819]

77/233. Strengthening national and international efforts, including with the private sector, to protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse

The General Assembly,

Stressing that the rights of the child are human rights, and that these rights need to be protected both offline and online,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[820] the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[821] and other relevant international and regional instruments,

Recalling also its resolution 76/181 of 16 December 2021, in which it endorsed the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, and in particular paragraph 29 of the Declaration and its call to address the needs and protect the rights of children and youth, with due consideration to their vulnerabilities, to ensure their protection from all forms of crime, violence, abuse and exploitation both online and offline, such as sexual abuse and exploitation of children and trafficking in persons, noting the particular vulnerabilities of children in the context of smuggling of migrants, as well as recruitment by organized criminal groups including gangs, as well as by terrorist groups, and paragraph 86 of the Declaration and its call to take more effective measures to prevent and end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children, including child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse online and offline, by criminalizing such acts, supporting victims and fostering international cooperation to combat those crimes,

Recognizing the important roles of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in developing and recommending anti-crime policies to more effectively prevent and counter child sexual exploitation and abuse, and related crimes, as well as other offences, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/22 of 30 July 1992,

Recalling its resolution 69/194 of 18 December 2014, in which it adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in which it recognized the key role played by the justice system in preventing and responding to violence against children, including child sexual exploitation and abuse online, and urged Member States to prohibit by law any form of sexual violence against a child through or facilitated by the use of new information technologies, including the Internet, to implement comprehensive prevention programmes for children, to establish, in cooperation with Internet service and access providers and mobile telephone companies, effective detection and reporting mechanisms, to enhance the effective cooperation of such companies and entities with law enforcement entities in preventing and combating child sexual exploitation and abuse, to provide comprehensive age- and gender-appropriate specialized services to persons who have experienced child sexual abuse and exploitation and to prevent the production and dissemination of materials depicting child sexual exploitation and abuse,

Noting that, in some Member States, persons who have experienced child sexual exploitation and abuse may also be referred to with different terminology,[822] which helps to support their recovery,

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[819] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chair of the Committee on the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council.

[820] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[821] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.

[822] The term "survivors" is often used to acknowledge that victims of child sexual abuse and child exploitation can recover from the trauma that they have endured.

Recalling its resolution 74/174 of 18 December 2019 on countering child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse online, in which it urged Member States to strengthen, consistent with their domestic legal frameworks, their efforts to combat cybercrime in relation to child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, including when committed online, and to take legislative or other measures, in accordance with domestic law, to facilitate the detection by Internet service and access providers and other relevant entities of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse materials online,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 74/174, it noted that child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse could take many forms, such as, but not limited to, contact and non-contact offending, online offending, trafficking in children for the purposes of sexual exploitation, grooming for sexual purposes, using child sexual abuse images for blackmail or extortion, the acquisition, production, distribution, making available, sale, copying, possession and accessing of child sexual abuse materials and live-streaming of child sexual abuse,

Noting with concern the growing threat posed by "self-generated" child sexual abuse materials, where children are coerced or manipulated into producing or voluntarily produce such materials, which are then exploited,

Noting that some instances of live-streamed child sexual abuse involve payment of remuneration, and that persons may sexually abuse or exploit children in person and outside their country of nationality or residence,

Noting also that persons who have experienced child sexual exploitation and abuse may be further harmed if materials depicting them are shared in an exploitative manner, even if such images do not constitute child sexual abuse materials,

Recalling Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/3 of 26 May 2017 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes and into efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime,[823]

Recalling also its resolutions 72/195 of 19 December 2017 on improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons, 73/148 of 17 December 2018, entitled "Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: sexual harassment", and 73/154 of 17 December 2018 on protecting children from bullying, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2004/27 of 21 July 2004 on guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime, 2005/20 of 22 July 2005 on the Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime and 2011/33 of 28 July 2011 on prevention, protection and international cooperation against the use of new information technologies to abuse and/or exploit children, and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 16/2 of 27 April 2007 on effective crime prevention and criminal justice responses to combat sexual exploitation of children,[824]

Taking note of the International Telecommunication Union policy brief entitled "Keeping children safe in the digital environment: the importance of protection and empowerment",

Recognizing that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has resulted in offenders and children spending more time online and has therefore increased the need for safety measures and education mitigating the risks to children from online sexual exploitation and abuse,

Recognizing also that Member States have a responsibility to take action to keep children safe from all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse,

Recognizing further the pressing need to prevent and combat child sexual exploitation and abuse wherever it occurs, and recognizing that manifestations of offline and online exploitation and abuse can be interrelated,

Recognizing the devastating and long-lasting trauma that child sexual exploitation and abuse can inflict upon victims, the shame and stigma that can silence persons who have experienced child sexual exploitation and abuse and add to their suffering, and the risk of revictimization and retraumatization, including from the repeated online circulation of content associated with the sexual exploitation and abuse of children,

Recognizing also that effective efforts to prevent and tackle child sexual exploitation and abuse depend on multi-stakeholder partnerships across the public and private sectors at the local, national, regional and international levels,

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[823] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10* (E/2017/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[824] Ibid., *2007, Supplement No. 10* (E/2007/30/Rev.1), part one, chap. I, sect. D.

Recognizing further that the creation, possession, dissemination and consumption of child sexual abuse materials put children at risk of sexual exploitation and abuse, including by normalizing the conduct depicted in such materials and fuelling the demand for such materials,

Noting with concern the linkages in some cases between child sexual exploitation and abuse and trafficking in children for commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation,

Noting that no country alone can prevent and combat child sexual exploitation and abuse, given its transnational nature, and that children will not be safe from this horrific abuse until robust and consistent standards and legislation are adopted and implemented globally,

Noting also that the term "child pornography" is being increasingly referred to, within some Member States, as child sexual exploitation or child sexual abuse materials to better reflect the nature of such materials and the seriousness of the harm suffered by the child in this context,

Recognizing the importance of standardized terminology to promote common understanding and provide the legal precision needed to support effective national legal frameworks and to strengthen international cooperation in this regard,

Recalling paragraph 67 of the Kyoto Declaration, in which Member States recognized the fundamental role of effective international cooperation in preventing and combating crime and to that end underlined the importance of addressing, tackling and effectively responding to international challenges and barriers, in particular measures, that hinder such cooperation and which are not consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and obligations under international law and in that regard urged States, consistent with their international obligations, to refrain from applying such measures,

Recognizing that gaps in access to and use of information and communications technologies by States can diminish the effectiveness of international cooperation in combating the creation, dissemination and consumption of child sexual exploitation and abuse materials,

Recognizing also that child sexual exploitation and abuse are often transnational in nature, as a single instance of abuse online can span multiple jurisdictions, with the victim, offender and Internet service and access providers all potentially based in different countries and child sexual abuse materials stored and disseminated in different jurisdictions,

Stressing the importance of remaining responsive to the evolving and growing nature of child sexual exploitation and abuse globally, as increasing Internet access and new and evolving information and communications technologies, including encryption capability and anonymizing tools, are used by offenders in order to commit crimes involving child sexual exploitation and abuse, and to the increasing burden on the capacities and capabilities of law enforcement agencies, victim support services and other agencies,

Noting the growing efforts by Member States, including through national or domestic legislation and strategies, and through relevant multilateral agreements as well as other relevant formats, to prevent and combat the online sexual exploitation and abuse of children,

Recognizing that Internet service and access providers should proactively design products and services to prevent and combat child sexual exploitation and abuse, and noting that systems should not place the primary responsibility for reporting exploitation and abuse on persons who have experienced child sexual abuse and exploitation,

Emphasizing the particular need and challenge for Member States to promote clear and coherent expectations, standards and regulations, within their domestic legal frameworks, for Internet service and access providers to keep children safe when using their platforms and services,

1. *Encourages* Member States to engage in dialogue and foster cooperation with relevant Internet service and access providers that fall under their jurisdictions to promote and ensure child safety and well-being and to cooperate with a view to combating child sexual exploitation and abuse;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to establish and strengthen public-private partnerships and dialogues, consistent with their domestic legal frameworks, with Internet service and access providers to facilitate or encourage the use of services that are safe by design and do not compromise children's safety and to use appropriate measures

to enable the detection and reporting of online child sexual exploitation and abuse, or to provide evidence in response to legal processes, regardless of the technology used online, including encryption and anonymizing tools, while protecting the privacy of users and victims;

3. *Also calls upon* Member States to take appropriate measures to restrict, in accordance with domestic law, access to child sexual abuse materials in cyberspace;

4. *Urges* Member States to criminalize all forms of child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, including child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse online, to grant law enforcement agencies appropriate authority and to provide appropriate tools to identify victims and effectively combat child sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and bring perpetrators to justice;

5. *Urges* States parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to implement their legal obligations under that protocol;

6. *Encourages* Member States to adopt legislative and other measures to prevent and protect children from violence and harm, including online sexual exploitation and abuse, including by considering measures, suitable for their domestic contexts, requiring the prevention, detection, reporting and removal of online child sexual exploitation and abuse materials, including technology-facilitated solicitation, online grooming and the hosting of child sexual abuse materials on online servers;

7. *Also encourages* Member States, consistent with national legal frameworks, to make appropriate legislative and policy efforts, including strengthening existing legislation, to enable law enforcement authorities to prevent and respond to online child sexual exploitation and abuse, and to protect children from online sexual exploitation and abuse and actively engage in international police cooperation to that end;

8. *Invites* Member States to consider best practices from other Member States, in particular those that encourage the private sector to enhance its efforts to combat online child sexual exploitation and abuse by developing and promoting voluntarily agreed industry-wide standards for online child safety that foster transparency and cooperation between the private and public sectors;

9. *Calls upon* Member States to exchange information and insights on their respective domestic legislation, policies, procedures and practices, as well as their experience and knowledge, including with regard to national reporting regimes for online child sexual exploitation and abuse materials, to allow cross-jurisdictional collaboration and to foster best practices;

10. *Also calls upon* Member States to recognize the need for and promote common data sets, for or among competent authorities, of known child sexual abuse materials, such as the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) International Child Sexual Exploitation database, for the purpose of detecting, reporting and removing materials, including images and videos of child sexual exploitation and abuse, from online servers, and to work towards an appropriate alignment of terminology of child sexual abuse materials to protect the safety and privacy of victims and to prevent their repeated exploitation and abuse;

11. *Further calls upon* Member States to promote awareness of the urgent need for action by Governments, Internet service and access providers and other actors to protect children from sexual exploitation and abuse, and to facilitate dialogue between the different entities and sectors required for an effective response;

12. *Urges* Member States to increase public awareness of the serious nature of child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse materials, how such materials constitute sexual offences against children and how the production, distribution and consumption of such materials put more children at risk of sexual exploitation and abuse, including by normalizing the conduct depicted in such materials and fuelling the demand for such materials;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to develop effective gender- and age-sensitive strategies for preventing and combating child sexual exploitation and abuse, including by ensuring that institutions providing services to children are equipped with appropriate safeguards to prevent and intervene early, and for building protective factors in families, households and communities to impede offenders' efforts both online and offline;

14. *Also calls upon* Member States to develop strategies that prevent and combat child exploitation and abuse and, through advocacy, awareness-raising and educational initiatives, challenge the shame and stigma that victims can suffer, and to foster collaboration and information-sharing at the strategic and operational levels among Governments,

educational institutions, front-line agencies, the private sector, civil society, including leaders who have experienced child sexual abuse and exploitation, the media and the public in order to promote child safety and well-being;

15. *Further calls upon* Member States, in accordance with their domestic legal frameworks and applicable international law, to strengthen international cooperation to combat child sexual abuse and exploitation online through, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance and extradition as well as police-to-police and agency-to-agency cooperation, among others, in order to counter such crimes and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice and victims are identified, while respecting the right of children to privacy;

16. *Calls upon* Member States to develop effective measures to enhance the capacities of their justice systems to prevent and respond to child sexual exploitation and abuse, including training in child forensic interviewing, in victim-centred approaches to avoid retraumatization of victims and in the proper handling and processing of digital evidence, and to build public trust in relation to engaging with and reporting to law enforcement authorities;

17. *Stresses* the need to engage effectively with persons who have experienced child sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as their wider support networks and communities, taking into account their particular characteristics and not excluding any child on the basis of any characteristic or condition, including gender, age, disability, belief or ethnicity;

18. *Also stresses* the need to enhance cooperation among Member States to prevent and combat child sexual exploitation and abuse and reinforce the provision of technical assistance to requesting States to enhance the capacity of national authorities to deal with child sexual exploitation and abuse in all their forms;

19. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States, upon request, in creating age- and gender-sensitive strategies and responses for preventing and combating child sexual exploitation and abuse, to improve understanding of child sexual exploitation and abuse internationally and to foster the cross-sector responses required, including from Internet service and access providers;

20. *Encourages* Member States to promote the proactive sharing of best practices and public policies on support for persons who have experienced child sexual abuse and exploitation, in order to protect children from child sexual exploitation and abuse, including online;

21. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives, such as training in the use of digital evidence, material support and services and other initiatives, upon request, to support Member States, in particular developing countries, in preventing and combating online child sexual exploitation and abuse, and invites Member States to provide support in this regard;

22. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the implementation of the relevant paragraphs of the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 77/234

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/464, para. 31)[825]

77/234. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 75/197 of 16 December 2020 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[826]

[825] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Uganda (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[826] A/77/164.

Bearing in mind that weaknesses in crime prevention lead to subsequent difficulties at the level of crime control mechanisms, and bearing in mind also the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Aware of the devastating impact of new and more dynamic crime trends on the national economies of African States, such as the high levels of transnational organized crime, including the utilization of digital technology to commit all types of cybercrime, and aware also of illicit trafficking in cultural property, drugs, precious metals, rhinoceros horns and ivory, of piracy and money-laundering and of the fact that crime is a major obstacle to harmonious and sustainable development in Africa,

Deeply concerned about the growing links, in some cases, between some forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and that criminal justice procedures will have to be more cost-conscious, timely and expeditious and sensitive to public responses to minimize or eliminate any suspicion of compromise,

Emphasizing that combating crime is a collective endeavour to meet the global challenge of organized crime and that investment of necessary resources in crime prevention is important to that aim and contributes to sustainable development,

Noting with concern that in most African countries the existing criminal justice system does not have sufficiently skilled personnel and adequate infrastructure and is therefore ill-equipped to manage the emergence of new crime trends, and acknowledging the challenges that Africa faces in litigation processes and the management of correctional institutions,

Recognizing that the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders is a focal point for professional efforts aimed at promoting the active cooperation and collaboration of Governments, academics, institutions and scientific and professional organizations and experts in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Bearing in mind the African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019–2023), aimed at encouraging Member States to participate in and own the regional initiatives for effective crime prevention and good governance and strengthened justice administration,

Recognizing the importance of promoting sustainable development as a complement to crime prevention strategies,

Emphasizing the need to create necessary coalitions with all partners in order to achieve effective crime prevention policies,

Recalling the undertaking and conclusion of a preliminary diagnostic study by a consultant of the Economic Commission for Africa prior to the commencement of a full system-wide review process, including the significance of the Institute as a viable mechanism for promoting cooperation among the relevant entities to respond to the crime problem afflicting Africa,

Expressing concern over the continued absence of a Director of the Institute, and noting the important role of such senior management positions in ensuring the normal functioning of the Institute,

Noting with concern that the financial situation of the Institute has greatly affected its capacity to deliver services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner, and noting that one of the findings of the preliminary diagnostic study is that the Institute urgently needs to increase its income,

Recognizing the ongoing efforts by the Governing Board of the Institute to mobilize States members of the Institute, with a view to obtaining and reaffirming their financial commitment to the Institute, in line with the decision of the Board, taken in Addis Ababa on 18 February 2020, to address the decline in financial support for the programmes of the Institute,

Recalling the Institute's appeal to the Secretary-General to increase the grant from the United Nations to a level necessary to maintain the Institute with all the core Professional-level staff in order to sustain the implementation of the Institute's activities while avoiding the high turnover of Professional-level staff owing to financial unpredictability,

Noting that the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has led to a review in policy regarding crime prevention and criminal justice, and acknowledging the Institute's efforts to develop innovative information

management strategies through the use of digital resources, which are vital in reaching out to partners and promoting the visibility of the Institute and its relevance to selected professional networks,

Taking note with appreciation of the seventh extraordinary meeting of the Governing Board with regard to formalizing the operation of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Institute and the efforts made to organize the inaugural meeting of the Committee,

Commending the interactive sessions that the Institute has developed with Member States and stakeholders, including the visit of the Chair to the secretariat for Governing Board duties, and recognizing the attendant benefit that such sessions have for easing consultations with stakeholders to strengthen mobilization of support and resolving emerging governance and programme implementation issues,

Recalling the detailed description provided in the report of the Secretary-General[827] of funding deficiencies that have severely undermined the capacity of the Institute to serve the needs of the region, and recognizing that crime results in the expenditure of a significant amount of resources,

Bearing in mind that the Institute is an important component of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice network and that, without the necessary funds, the Institute will fail to accomplish its vital goals of combating drug trafficking, cybercrime and environmental crimes, among other challenges, as well as its goals of reforming the crucial deficiencies in the region's prosecution system and building effective and strong alliances among law enforcement personnel, professional bodies, academic institutions, individual communities, experts and traditional and civil authorities in order to proactively prevent crime,

Acknowledging the Member States and organizations that have maintained their commitment to the fulfilment of their financial obligations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote, coordinate and carry out more activities within its core mandate, including regional technical cooperation related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa, despite the resource constraints under which it is operating;

2. *Also commends* the efforts of the Chair of the Governing Board in strengthening resource mobilization for the Institute through awareness-raising among Member States;

3. *Recalls* the decision of the Governing Board of the Institute to adopt the strategic plan for the period 2017–2021 to address crime in an integrated manner by strengthening national capacities for crime prevention and criminal justice, and calls upon Member States, including those members of the Institute, all relevant entities of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to give the support necessary for its full implementation;

4. *Acknowledges* the progress made by African States in the implementation of the African Union Plan of Action on Drug Control and Crime Prevention (2019–2023) and the mechanism for its implementation, follow-up and evaluation;

5. *Encourages* Member States to raise awareness of the work of the Institute and its relevance to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[828]

6. *Reaffirms* the need to further strengthen the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

7. *Also reaffirms* the benefits, in some cases, of the utilization of alternative remedial measures, where appropriate, applying standards of ethical conduct and using local traditions, counselling and other emerging correctional rehabilitation measures, consistent with the obligations of States under international law;

8. *Notes* the efforts of the Institute to establish contacts with organizations in those countries that are promoting crime prevention programmes and its maintenance of close links with regional and subregional political entities, such as the African Union Commission, the East African Community, the Commission of the Economic

[827] A/73/133.

[828] Resolution 70/1.

Community of West African States, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the Southern African Development Community;

9. *Encourages* the Institute, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, to take into account the various planning authorities in the region that focus attention on the coordination of activities that promote development based on sustainable agricultural production and preservation of the environment in developing its crime prevention strategies;

10. *Urges* States members of the Institute that have failed to meet their annual assessed financial contributions to the Institute to pay all or part of their outstanding arrears, taking into consideration that member States are to fund 80 per cent of the approved budget, and in this regard encourages all member States and organizations to fully honour their financial obligations;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken to recruit the Director of the Institute by the end of November 2022 and, subsequently, other Professional staff;

12. *Recalls* the introduction by the Institute of a cost-sharing initiative in its execution of various programmes with Member States, partners and United Nations entities;

13. *Urges* all Member States and non-governmental organizations and the international community to continue to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and in the implementation of its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

14. *Urges* all States that have not already done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[829] as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[830] and encourages States parties that have not yet implemented the conventions to inform the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of any impediments that they encounter and of their need for technical assistance to overcome those impediments;

15. *Encourages* African States that are not yet members of the Institute to consider becoming member States in order to enhance its collaborative efforts and enlarge its support base and thereby strengthen the fight against crime and terrorism, which hamper individual and collective development efforts on the continent;

16. *Commends* the continued support provided by the Government of Uganda as host country, including resolving the issue of the ownership of the land on which the Institute is located and facilitating the collaboration of the Institute with other stakeholders within Uganda and the region and with international partners;

17. *Also commends* the efforts of the Institute in implementing several programmes in the region, which have contributed, inter alia, to a growing set of coordinated remedial responses to crime on the basis of technical support in facilitating mutual assistance by law enforcement agencies and the emergence of regional jurisdictions;

18. *Recalls* the initiative of the Institute to collaborate with relevant universities to operationalize the link between criminal justice authorities and sources of traditional justice approaches so as to harmonize the use of restorative practices, where appropriate;

19. *Also recalls* the initiatives of the Institute to work with specific academic and specialized human rights institutions that are connected to other professional networks in the region to promote curricula that have a strong crime prevention and criminal justice component;

20. *Encourages* the Institute to consider focusing on specific and general vulnerabilities of each programme country, with an emphasis on tailoring practitioner training and development efforts to address identified vulnerabilities, and to maximize the use of available initiatives to address crime problems with existing funds, as well as available capacity, by creating useful coalitions with regional and local institutions;

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[829] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[830] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

21. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work closely with the Institute, and requests the Institute to provide the annual report on its activities to the Office and to the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

23. *Commends* the Institute for its improved efforts in terms of resource mobilization;

24. *Recalls* its resolution 75/197, and requests the Secretary-General, taking into consideration the next strategic plan of the Institute, to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core Professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

25. *Reiterates its request*, made to the Secretary-General in its resolution 75/197, to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the financial and technical support necessary to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate, bearing in mind that the precarious financial situation of the Institute greatly undermines its capacity to respond positively and effectively to the growing need in the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders;

26. *Invites* Member States and other partners to consider providing extrabudgetary resources to enable the Institute to effectively implement its mandate;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including recommendations on further strengthening the capacity of the Institute.

RESOLUTION 77/235

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/464, para. 31)[831]

77/235. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/61 of 4 December 2000, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006, 62/202 of 19 December 2007, 63/226 of 19 December 2008, 64/237 of 24 December 2009, 65/169 of 20 December 2010, 67/189 and 67/192 of 20 December 2012, 68/195 of 18 December 2013, 69/199 of 18 December 2014, 71/208 of 19 December 2016 and 73/190 of 17 December 2018 and all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions, including resolutions 23/9 of 13 June 2013,[832] 29/11 of 2 July 2015,[833] 35/25 of 23 June 2017,[834] 41/9 of 11 July 2019[835] and

[831] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Gambia, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

[832] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[833] Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[834] Ibid., *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/72/53), chap. V, sect. A.

[835] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/74/53), chap. V, sect. A.

47/7 of 12 July 2021,[836] and its resolution 74/276 of 1 June 2020 and decision 74/568 of 31 August 2020, as well as its resolution 75/194 of 16 December 2020,

Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[837] which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full and effective implementation,

Noting that 2023 marks the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption by the General Assembly, and highlighting the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to promote the implementation of the Convention,

Stressing the need for States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Bearing in mind the need to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, that the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention, and recalling article 51 of the Convention, under which States parties shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance with regard to asset return,

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels and in all its forms is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Acknowledging the Riyadh initiative for enhancing international anti-corruption law enforcement cooperation as part of which the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities was established under the auspices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

Reaffirming 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 also 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,

Welcoming, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

Reaffirming the comprehensive set of commitments contained in the political declaration entitled "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation", adopted at the first-ever special session of the General Assembly against corruption, held from 2 to 4 June 2021,[838] which is a milestone in the efforts of the international community to prevent and combat corruption, including domestic efforts such as preventive measures, criminalization, law enforcement and asset recovery, and reaffirming also the strong commitment of the States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in which it was agreed to step up the efforts to promote and effectively implement the anti-corruption obligations and robust commitments under the international anti-corruption architecture,

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[836] Ibid., *Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/76/53), chap. VII, sect. A.

[837] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[838] Resolution S-32/1, annex.

Reiterating the invitation to the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as the treaty body with prime responsibility for promoting and reviewing the implementation of the Convention, to follow up and build on the political declaration through an inclusive follow-up process to the special session, and welcoming resolution 9/2 of 17 December 2021 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,[839]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/174 of 17 December 2015 on the Thirteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and welcoming the adoption by the Thirteenth Congress of the Doha Declaration on Integrating Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice into the Wider United Nations Agenda to Address Social and Economic Challenges and to Promote the Rule of Law at the National and International Levels, and Public Participation,[840] and reaffirming also its resolution 76/181 of 16 December 2021 on the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and welcoming the adoption by the Fourteenth Congress of the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[841] through which States strengthen international cooperation and assistance regarding the identification, tracing, freezing, seizing and confiscation of proceeds or other property and instrumentalities of crime and their disposal including by return, including in accordance with all the relevant provisions and principles of the Organized Crime Convention and the Convention against Corruption, and where appropriate, give special consideration to concluding agreements or mutually acceptable arrangements in this regard, on a case-by-case basis, for the return and final disposal of confiscated property pursuant to article 57, paragraph 5, of the Convention against Corruption, as well as due consideration to agreeing to measures to enhance transparency and accountability, recognizing that, consistent with article 4 of the Convention, States cannot unilaterally impose terms in this regard,

Reaffirming also the additional commitments to recognize asset recovery as an important element of crime prevention and criminal justice, particularly in cases involving corruption, and in that regard strengthen political will while safeguarding due process; to encourage States to remove barriers and overcome obstacles to applying measures for the recovery of assets, in particular by simplifying their legal procedures, where appropriate and in accordance with domestic law, taking into consideration the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the use of returned assets in accordance with domestic laws and in line with domestic priorities, and bearing in mind that strengthening the recovery of stolen assets and their return will support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda; and to implement the measures necessary to obtain and share reliable information on beneficial ownership of companies, legal structures or other complex legal mechanisms, thus facilitating the investigation process and the execution of mutual legal assistance requests,

Recognizing that education plays a fundamental role in the prevention of and fight against corruption, in as much as it makes corrupt behaviour socially unacceptable,

Welcoming resolution 9/8 of 17 December 2021 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on anti-corruption education, awareness-raising and training,[842] in which the Conference recognizes the fundamental role of education in the prevention of and fight against corruption as it promotes integrity and fosters a culture of rejection of corruption, urges States parties to implement or improve, as may be necessary, their efforts to implement anti-corruption educational programmes for young people and periodic training programmes for public officials, especially those in positions vulnerable to corruption, to enable them to meet the requirements for the correct, honourable and proper performance of public functions, and invites States parties to consider, as appropriate, requesting the assistance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations and initiatives in this regard, such as the International Anti-Corruption Academy and the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, in this regard,

Reiterating the need to improve the understanding of the linkages between gender and corruption, including the ways in which corruption can affect women and men differently, and to promote gender equality and the

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[839] See CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.A.

[840] Resolution 70/174, annex.

[841] Resolution 76/181, annex.

[842] See CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.A.

empowerment of women, and taking note of relevant reports of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the effective implementation of respective resolutions of the Conference of the States parties to the Convention,

Reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights, the rule of law at the national and international levels, the proper management of public affairs and democracy in the fight against corruption,

Acknowledging that good governance, at the national and international levels, has a role in the prevention of and fight against corruption,

Recognizing that improvements in the promotion and protection of human rights at the domestic level have a role to play in the prevention of and fight against corruption at all levels,

Realizing that the fight against corruption at all levels, including by facilitating international cooperation to achieve the purposes enshrined in the Convention, including on asset recovery and return, plays an important role in the promotion and protection of all human rights and in the process of creating an environment conducive to their full enjoyment and realization,

Recognizing that supportive national legal systems are essential in preventing and combating corrupt practices, facilitating asset recovery and returning the proceeds of corruption to legitimate owners,

Recalling that the purposes of the Convention, as set out in article 1, are to promote and strengthen measures to prevent and combat corruption more efficiently and effectively, to promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, including in asset recovery, and to promote the integrity, accountability and proper management of public affairs and public property,

Recalling also article 43, paragraph 1, of the Convention, in which States parties are encouraged, where appropriate and consistent with their domestic legal systems, to consider assisting each other in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption,

Welcoming the commitment of States parties to the Convention, in particular their determination to give effect to the obligations set out in chapter V of the Convention in order to prevent, detect, deter and recover in a more effective manner the international transfer of proceeds of crime and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery,

Recalling the third preambular paragraph of the Convention, in which States parties expressed concern about cases of corruption that involve vast quantities of assets, which may constitute a substantial proportion of the resources of States, and that threaten the political stability and sustainable development of those States, and taking note of resolution 7/2 of 10 November 2017 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention[843] in this regard,

Recognizing that those who engage in corrupt acts, whether natural or legal persons, should be held accountable and prosecuted by their domestic authorities, consistent with domestic law and the requirements of the Convention, and that all appropriate efforts should be made to conduct a financial investigation into assets illegally acquired by them and to recover such assets through domestic confiscation proceedings, international cooperation for purposes of confiscation or appropriate direct recovery measures,

Acknowledging that the fight against all forms of corruption requires comprehensive anti-corruption frameworks and strong institutions at all levels, including at the local and international levels, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapters II and III, and recognizing the strategic role of a holistic approach to countering corruption, money-laundering and transnational organized crime,

Reaffirming resolution 9/4 of 17 December 2021 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption at regional levels,[844] in which the Conference welcomes the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime initiative to adopt a regional approach in its anti-corruption technical assistance delivery, including through the creation of regional platforms across the world to fast-track the implementation of the Convention and recognizes that multilateral and bilateral technical assistance is more effective when aligned with national anti-corruption strategies and action plans and built on their respective strengths and therefore notes the importance of coordination among

[843] See CAC/COSP/2017/14, sect. I.A.

[844] See CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.A.

donors, technical assistance providers and recipient countries in order to leverage resources and increase efficiencies, avoid duplication of effort and meet the needs of recipient countries,

Welcoming resolutions 7/8 of 10 November 2017[845] and 8/4 of 20 December 2019[846] of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on corruption in sport, which, inter alia, noted with great concern the risk that corruption and economic crime, including money-laundering, pose to sport, as well as resolution 7/5 of 10 November 2017 of the Conference of the States Parties on promoting preventive measures against corruption,[847] which called upon States parties to continue implementing and to reinforce the effective implementation of the preventive measures outlined in chapter II of the Convention and in the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of States parties, international and intergovernmental organizations and sport-related organizations, to support efforts to tackle corruption in sport, emphasizing also the role of public-private partnerships and multi-stakeholder approaches, and effectively implement resolutions 7/8 and 8/4 adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Taking note of the Youth Forum discussions held during the opening of the special session of the General Assembly against corruption, held at United Nations Headquarters from 2 to 4 June 2021,

Noting with appreciation the publication and launch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime *Global Report on Corruption in Sport* to support the effective implementation of resolutions 7/8 and 8/4 adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,

Recognizing that the success of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption depends on the full commitment and constructive engagement of all States parties to the Convention in a progressive and comprehensive process, and recalling in that regard resolution 3/1 of 13 November 2009 of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,[848] including the terms of reference of the Mechanism contained in the annex to that resolution, Conference decision 5/1 of 29 November 2013,[849] Conference resolution 6/1 of 6 November 2015,[850] Conference resolution 8/2 of 20 December 2019[851] and Conference decision 8/1 of 20 December 2019,[852]

Noting with appreciation the commitment of States parties to the Convention to the Implementation Review Mechanism, both as countries under review and as reviewing States, and the support provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in this regard, and acknowledging the importance of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to begin considering the scope and mandate of the Review Mechanism beyond the current review phase,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as the secretariat of the Implementation Review Mechanism, in ensuring the necessary coordination with relevant international and regional organizations in the field of anti-corruption with a view to further facilitating and enhancing synergies between anti-corruption peer review mechanisms,

Bearing in mind that the prevention and eradication of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academia and community-based organizations, if their efforts in this area are to be effective,

Reaffirming that strengthening international cooperation among law enforcement and other relevant agencies is a global imperative in order to effectively prevent and combat transnational corruption,

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[845] See CAC/COSP/2017/14, sect. I.A.

[846] See CAC/COSP/2019/17, sect. I.A.

[847] See CAC/COSP/2017/14, sect. I.A

[848] See CAC/COSP/2009/15, sect. I.A.

[849] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.B.

[850] See CAC/COSP/2015/10, sect. I.

[851] See CAC/COSP/2019/17, sect. I.B.

[852] Ibid., sect. I.C.

Welcoming resolution 9/5 of 17 December 2021 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on enhancing international anti-corruption law enforcement cooperation,[853] in which, inter alia, States parties are called upon, in accordance with their international obligations and domestic law, and without prejudice to their domestic law and policies on data-sharing and their own investigations, prosecutions or judicial proceedings, to proactively and in a timely manner share information between anti-corruption law enforcement authorities without a prior request, where they believe that such information could assist the authority in undertaking or successfully concluding inquiries and criminal proceedings or could result in the formulation of a mutual legal assistance request, as provided in articles 46, paragraph 4, and 56 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, including by considering using the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network) and existing networks, such as that of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), as appropriate,

Affirming the importance of promoting dialogue among central authorities and practitioners prior to the submission of mutual legal assistance requests, which are particularly valuable in investigations of corruption, and coordination and cooperation on asset recovery through inter-agency networks, including regional networks, where appropriate,

Reaffirming its concern about the laundering and transfer of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern in accordance with the Convention,

Expressing concern over illicit financial flows, and related tax evasion, corruption and money-laundering, and their negative impact on the world economy, and inviting Member States to consider developing strategies or policies to combat those practices and to curb the harmful effects of jurisdictions and territories that are uncooperative in tax matters and to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows,

Noting the efforts made by all States parties to the Convention in tracing, freezing and recovering their stolen assets, and underlining the need to redouble efforts to assist in the recovery of those assets in order to preserve stability and sustainable development,

Recognizing that States continue to face challenges in recovering assets owing to differences between legal systems, the complexity of multi-jurisdictional investigations and prosecutions, the limited implementation of effective domestic tools such as non-conviction-based forfeiture for asset recovery, as well as other administrative or civil procedures leading to confiscation, lack of familiarity with the mutual legal assistance procedures of other States and difficulties in identifying the flow of corruption proceeds, and noting the particular challenges posed in recovering the proceeds of corruption in cases involving individuals who are or have been entrusted with prominent public functions, as well as their family members and close associates,

Concerned about the difficulties, particularly the legal and practical difficulties, that both requested and requesting States face in asset recovery, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of stolen assets for sustainable development and stability, and noting the difficulty of providing information establishing a link between proceeds of corruption in the requested State and the crime committed in the requesting State, which in many cases can be difficult to prove,

Recognizing the common difficulties experienced by States parties to the Convention in establishing a nexus between identified assets and the crime from which such assets are derived, and emphasizing the critical importance of effective domestic investigative efforts and international cooperation to overcome such difficulties,

Recognizing also the critical importance of effective international cooperation in efforts to combat corruption, particularly with respect to offences specified in the Convention with a transnational element, and encouraging continued cooperation by States parties, consistent with the requirements of the Convention, in all efforts to investigate and prosecute natural and legal persons, including the use of other legal mechanisms, where appropriate, for offences specified in the Convention and to recover assets related to such offences, consistent with chapter V of the Convention,

[853] See CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.A.

Calling upon all States parties to the Convention and, in particular, requested and requesting States, to cooperate to recover the proceeds of corruption and demonstrate strong commitment to ensure the return or disposal of such proceeds in accordance with article 57 of the Convention,

Noting the responsibility of requesting and requested States parties to cooperate to ensure that a greater proportion of the proceeds emanating from corruption are recovered, returned or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Convention,

Concerned that some persons accused of crimes of corruption have managed to escape justice and thus have eluded the legal consequences of their actions and have been successful in hiding their assets,

Taking into account the need to hold corrupt officials accountable by depriving them of the illicit profits and proceeds of their crimes and welcoming resolution 9/7 of 17 December 2021 on enhancing the use of beneficial ownership information to facilitate the identification, recovery and return of proceeds of crime, adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention,[854] in which States parties are called upon to ensure, or continue ensuring, efficient access to adequate and accurate beneficial information on companies in a timely manner for their domestic central or competent authorities, including, as appropriate, financial intelligence units and tax administrations, in accordance with domestic law, and are encouraged, where appropriate and feasible, to make use of digital and innovative technologies to facilitate the exchange of beneficial ownership information between central or competent authorities for the purposes of investigating and prosecuting corruption and the recovery and return of proceeds of crime in accordance with the Convention and domestic law,

Acknowledging the vital importance of ensuring the independence and effectiveness of authorities charged with investigating and prosecuting crimes of corruption and of recovering the proceeds of such crimes by several means, such as establishing the necessary legal framework and allocating the necessary resources,

Acknowledging also the fundamental principles of due process of law in criminal proceedings and in civil or administrative proceedings to adjudicate property rights,

Reiterating its concern about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

Concerned about the negative impact of widespread corruption on the enjoyment of human rights, recognizing that corruption constitutes one of the obstacles to the effective promotion and protection of human rights, as well as to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing also that corruption may disproportionately affect the most disadvantaged individuals of society,

Stressing that preventive measures, as outlined in chapter II of the Convention, are one of the most effective means of countering corruption and avoiding its negative impact on the enjoyment of human rights, and underlining that prevention measures should be strengthened at all levels,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and forums to strengthen cooperation in combating corruption, which aim, inter alia, to ensure openness and transparency, combat domestic and foreign bribery, tackle corruption in high-risk sectors, strengthen international cooperation and promote public integrity and transparency in the fight against corruption, which fuels illicit trade and insecurity and is a tremendous barrier to economic growth and the safety of citizens,

Noting with appreciation also the efforts made by those States that have established national coordination mechanisms between, inter alia, the different levels of their Governments and other actors, such as civil society organizations, the private sector and academia, to prevent and combat corruption, and noting the important role of the Implementation Review Mechanism as a platform to further strengthen coordination and information exchange,

Noting the efforts of regional organizations and international forums to combat corruption, including the International Expert Meeting on Management and Disposal of Recovered and Returned Stolen Assets, including in Support of Sustainable Development, held in Addis Ababa from 14 to 16 February 2017, and the second International

[854] Ibid.

Expert Meeting on the Return of Stolen Assets, held in Addis Ababa from 7 to 9 May 2019, the Global Expert Group Meetings on Corruption involving Vast Quantities of Assets held in Lima from 3 to 5 December 2018 and in Oslo from 12 to 14 June 2019, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Course of Action on Fighting Corruption and Ensuring Transparency and the Santiago Commitment to Fight Corruption and Ensure Transparency, and the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan, the Group of 20 Anti-Corruption Open Data Principles, the Saint Petersburg Development Strategy, the non-binding Guiding Principles on Enforcement of the Foreign Bribery Offence, the Guiding Principles to Combat Solicitation, the Asset Recovery Principles, the asset recovery country profiles and the Asset Recovery Guides,

Noting also the work of other initiatives in the field of asset recovery, such as the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, and welcoming their efforts to enhance cooperation between requesting and requested States and to collect information on international asset recovery cases in relation to offences established in accordance with the Convention, including on volumes of assets frozen, seized, confiscated and returned, pursuant to resolution 8/9 of 20 December 2019 on strengthening asset recovery to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its eighth session,

Noting with appreciation the Lausanne process initiative, and welcoming the fulfilment of the mandate contained in resolutions 5/3 of 29 November 2013,[855] 6/2 and 6/3 of 6 November 2015[856] and 7/1 of 10 November 2017[857] of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to develop practical guidelines on and a step-by-step guide for the efficient recovery of stolen assets, in close cooperation with the International Centre for Asset Recovery of the Basel Institute on Governance and with the support of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, that provides effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery for practitioners from requesting and requested States,

Recalling resolution 6/2 on facilitating international cooperation in asset recovery and the return of proceeds of crime, resolution 6/3 on fostering effective asset recovery and resolution 6/4 of 6 November 2015 on enhancing the use of civil and administrative proceedings against corruption, including through international cooperation, in the framework of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[858] adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its sixth session, held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015, and resolution 7/1 on strengthening mutual legal assistance for international cooperation and asset recovery, as well as resolution 8/1 of 20 December 2019 on strengthening of international cooperation on asset recovery and of administration of frozen, seized and confiscated assets, resolution 8/6 of 20 December 2019 on implementation of international obligations to prevent and combat bribery as defined under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and resolution 8/9 of 20 December 2019 on strengthening asset recovery to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[859] adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its eighth session, held in Abu Dhabi from 16 to 20 December 2019,

Recalling also the resolutions adopted as a result of the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 13 to 17 December 2021, in particular resolution 9/1, entitled "Sharm el-Sheikh declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery",[860]

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, from 13 to 17 December 2021, and also welcomes its report,[861] which reflects the outcomes and contributions of the Conference of the States Parties to promoting the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

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[855] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A.

[856] See CAC/COSP/2015/10, sect. I.

[857] See CAC/COSP/2017/14, sect. I.A.

[858] See CAC/COSP/2015/10, sect. I.

[859] See CAC/COSP/2019/17, sect. I.B.

[860] See CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.A.

[861] CAC/COSP/2021/17.

2. *Condemns* corruption at all levels and in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;

3. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, in accordance with the Convention;

4. *Reaffirms* the strong commitment of the States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption as the most comprehensive, legally binding universal instrument on corruption, and to integrating it into domestic legal systems;

5. *Welcomes* the fact that 189 parties have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, thus making it an instrument enjoying a status very close to universal adherence, and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and urges all States parties to take appropriate measures to ensure its full and effective implementation;

6. *Takes note with interest* of the ongoing preparatory work for the forthcoming tenth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, to be hosted by the United States of America, as an opportunity to mark at the highest level the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention, in 2023, and for acknowledging the positive impact the Convention has had in advancing States parties' efforts in preventing and combating corruption;

7. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to review its implementation and commit to making it an effective instrument to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and bribery, prosecute those involved in corrupt activities and encourage the international community to develop good practices on asset return, and, furthermore, to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for transfer abroad of stolen assets and for illicit financial flows;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the organization of the special session of the General Assembly against corruption, held from 2 to 4 June 2021, and the inclusive preparatory process under the auspices of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

9. *Reaffirms* the comprehensive set of commitments contained in the political declaration adopted by the special session of the General Assembly, with regard to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and to stepping up efforts to promote and effectively implement the anti-corruption obligations and robust commitments under the international anti-corruption architecture;

10. *Reiterates* the invitation to the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, as the treaty body with prime responsibility for promoting and reviewing the implementation of the Convention, to follow up and build upon the political declaration;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the work carried out under the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and by the Implementation Review Group, and urges Member States to continue to support this work and make every possible effort to provide comprehensive information and adhere to the timelines for review, as contained in the guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews;[862]

12. *Welcomes* the progress made in the first and second review cycles of the Mechanism and the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in support of the Mechanism, and encourages the use of the lessons learned in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mechanism, as well as the implementation of the Convention;

13. *Strongly encourages* States parties to the Convention to continue to actively engage in the Implementation Review Mechanism on chapter II (Preventive measures) and chapter V (Asset recovery) of the Convention, and invites them to provide appropriate extrabudgetary resources to contribute to the financing of the Mechanism;

14. *Welcomes* the efforts by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to begin considering the scope and mandate of the Review Mechanism beyond the current review phase as a transparent, efficient,

[862] CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/7, annex I.

non-intrusive, inclusive and impartial as well as non-adversarial, non-punitive mechanism and intergovernmental process for accelerating progress in the implementation of the Convention by States parties;

15. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Groups on Asset Recovery, on the Prevention of Corruption and on the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and encourages States parties to the Convention to support the work of all these subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

16. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to continue and to reinforce the effective implementation of the preventive measures outlined in chapter II of the Convention and in the resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

17. *Also calls upon* States parties to the Convention to fulfil their commitments, in accordance with its terms, to criminalize the bribery of foreign public officials and officials of public international organizations, and to strengthen their efforts to effectively enforce these laws;

18. *Encourages* all States parties to the Convention to strengthen their commitment to effective national action and international cooperation to give full effect to chapter V of the Convention and to contribute effectively to the recovery of the proceeds of corruption;

19. *Urges* Member States to combat and penalize corruption in all its forms, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption, to prevent the acquisition, transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption and to work for the prompt recovery and return of such assets in accordance with the principles of the Convention, including chapter V;

20. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to make available online, including by considering the use of open data formats, as much government information as feasible, subject to relevant limitations in domestic law and data privacy, in relation to the implementation of the Convention, in order to enable greater transparency, accountability and efficiency;

21. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to call upon States parties to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of international mutual legal assistance requests that need urgent action, and to ensure that the competent authorities of requested States have adequate resources to execute requests, taking into account the particular importance of the recovery of these assets for sustainable development and stability;[863]

22. *Urges* States parties that have yet to designate a central authority for international cooperation in accordance with the Convention to do so, and to appoint focal points for the purposes of international cooperation and mutual legal assistance in asset recovery, and where appropriate, encourages States parties to make full use of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery to facilitate cooperation and the implementation of the Convention, as well as to consider making use of the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities and other existing networks such as that of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

23. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to use and promote informal channels of communication and the possibility of spontaneous exchange of information, as permitted by domestic law, in particular prior to making formal requests for mutual legal assistance, by, inter alia, designating officials or institutions, as appropriate, with technical expertise in international cooperation in asset recovery to assist their counterparts in effectively meeting requirements for mutual legal assistance;

24. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to remove barriers to applying measures for the recovery of assets, in particular by simplifying their legal procedures, where appropriate and in accordance with their domestic law, and by preventing the abuse of such procedures while safeguarding due process, and also encourages States parties to limit, where appropriate, domestic legal immunities, in accordance with their legal systems and constitutional principles, in accordance with article 30, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

[863] CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A, resolution 5/3, para. 6.

25. E*ncourages* States parties to the Convention to give full effect to the resolutions, including those on asset recovery, of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

26. *Reiterates its invitation* to the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention to identify gaps and challenges in the implementation of the Convention by taking into account the results of the Implementation Review Mechanism, as well as any gaps and corruption challenges within the international anti-corruption framework, and to consider any recommendations by States parties to address the gaps and challenges identified in such a way as to improve the Convention and the implementation thereof as may be necessary, and in this regard and as a first step, invites the Conference, in the future, after the conclusion of and evaluation of the findings from the second review cycle, to organize a special session of the Conference on all aspects of the asset recovery and return process, with a view to considering all options available under the Convention, including exploring possible areas for improvement of the international asset recovery framework;

27. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the identification, freezing, confiscation, recovery and return of stolen assets and proceeds of corruption, and to give particular and timely consideration to the execution of requests for international mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the Convention, and to afford one another the widest possible cooperation and assistance in the extradition of individuals accused of offences, in accordance with their obligations under the Convention, including article 44;

28. *Also urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that procedures for international cooperation allow for the seizure and/or restraint of assets for a time period sufficient to preserve those assets in full, pending confiscation proceedings in another State, to ensure that there are adequate mechanisms in place to manage and preserve the value and condition of assets pending the conclusion of confiscation proceedings in another State, and to allow or expand cooperation in the enforcement of foreign seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, including through measures to permit recognition of non-conviction-based seizure and freezing orders and confiscation judgments, where possible;

29. *Further urges* States parties to the Convention to take a proactive approach to international cooperation in asset recovery by making full use of the mechanisms provided for in chapter V of the Convention, including initiating requests for assistance, making spontaneous and prompt disclosures of information on proceeds of offences to other States parties and considering making requests for notifications, in accordance with article 52, paragraph 2 (b), of the Convention, and, where appropriate, implementing measures to permit the recognition of non-conviction-based forfeiture judgments;

30. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to ensure that reliable, accurate and updated beneficial ownership information on companies and other legal entities is accessible to law enforcement agencies and other relevant authorities, including, as appropriate, financial intelligence units and tax administrations, thus facilitating the investigation process and the execution of requests, and encourages States parties to the Convention to cooperate in order to implement the measures necessary to enable them to obtain reliable, adequate, accurate and timely information on beneficial ownership of companies, legal structures or other complex legal mechanisms, including trusts and holdings, used to commit crimes of corruption or to hide and transfer proceeds;

31. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate and consistent with their national legal systems, to provide each other with the widest possible assistance in investigations of and proceedings in civil and administrative matters relating to corruption offences, committed by natural or legal persons, including, if appropriate, through mutual legal assistance, for the detection of corruption offences, the identification, freezing and confiscation of assets, and the other purposes established in article 46, paragraph 3, of the Convention;

32. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures, in accordance with their domestic law, to permit another Member State to initiate civil action in their courts to establish title to or ownership of property acquired through the commission of corruption offences by natural or legal persons, as well as to permit their courts to recognize a civil claim of another Member State for payment of compensation or damages caused by corruption offences and for ownership of confiscated property acquired through the commission of such offences, in accordance with article 53 of the Convention;

33. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to prevent, investigate and prosecute corruption offences established in accordance with the Convention, including, among others, when they involve vast quantities of assets,

to freeze, seize, confiscate and return proceeds of offences, in accordance with the Convention, and to consider measures criminalizing attempts to commit such offences, including when organized criminal groups are involved;

34. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention to take measures to ensure that legal and natural persons are held accountable for corruption offences in accordance with its terms, including, among others, when they involve vast quantities of assets, and encourages States parties to the Convention to consider the legal aspects of asset recovery and to strengthen cooperation in criminal matters, in accordance with chapter IV of the Convention;

35. *Encourages* Member States to prevent and combat all forms of corruption by increasing transparency, integrity, accountability and efficiency in the public and private sectors, including in public procurement, and recognizes in this regard the need to prevent impunity by prosecuting corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to cooperate in their extradition, in accordance with the obligations under the Convention;

36. *Stresses* the need for transparency in financial institutions, invites Member States to work on the identification and tracking of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, in accordance with the Convention, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in that regard;

37. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to give timely consideration to mutual legal assistance requests relating to the identification, freezing, tracing and/or recovery of proceeds of corruption and to respond effectively to requests for exchange of information related to proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instruments referred to in article 31 of the Convention situated in the territory of the requested State party, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including article 40;

38. *Urges* States, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their legal systems, to develop and implement or maintain effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies that promote the participation of society and reflect the principles of the rule of law, proper management of public affairs and public property, integrity, transparency and accountability, in accordance with article 5, paragraph 1, of the Convention, and in this respect encourages States and legal professionals and non-governmental organizations, where appropriate, to assist businesses, in particular small and medium-sized businesses, to develop codes of conduct and compliance programmes for preventing bribery and corruption and promoting integrity;

39. *Invites* States parties to the Convention to recognize the importance of the involvement of young people and children as key actors in strengthening ethical behaviour, beginning with the identification and adoption of values, principles and actions that make it possible to build a fair and corruption-free society, in accordance with the Convention;

40. *Urges* States parties to the Convention to effectively implement all resolutions and decisions of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, including resolutions 7/8 on corruption in sport and 8/4 on safeguarding sport from corruption, inter alia, through taking robust legislative and law enforcement measures, supporting technical assistance and promoting capacity-building initiatives, as appropriate, and promoting cooperation between law enforcement agencies and relevant sport-related organizations and stakeholders, as well as resolution 7/5 on promoting preventive measures against corruption, and urges States parties to the Convention to enhance prevention, detection, investigation, cooperation and the exchange of information and good practices to tackle the different manifestations of corruption in sport including by considering policy recommendations identified in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime *Global Report on Corruption in Sport*, where appropriate;

41. *Welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and to implement effective measures at the national level, in accordance with the Convention;

42. *Notes* the establishment by States of financial intelligence units, and encourages States that have not yet done so to consider establishing such units in accordance with article 58 of the Convention;

43. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to take measures to prevent the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, including to prevent the financial institutions in both countries of origin and countries of destination from being used to transfer or receive illicit funds, as well as to assist in their recovery and to return such assets to the requesting State, in accordance with the Convention;

44. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to work with all stakeholders in international and domestic financial markets to deny safe haven to assets acquired illicitly by individuals as a result of acts of corruption, to deny entry and safe haven to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them and to enhance international collaboration in the investigation and prosecution of corruption offences, as well as in the recovery of proceeds of corruption;

45. *Acknowledges* that effective and timely communication and cooperation between competent authorities can be an important factor in curbing the cross-border movement of persons involved in the commission of corruption offences and of property, which includes funds, derived from the commission of corruption offences, and can also contribute to the efforts to prevent and counter illicit financial flows derived from corruption, and encourages States parties to strive to eliminate the exploitation of deficiencies in regulatory regimes and channels that may serve as incentives for the cross-border movement of these persons and such property, as well as investigate and prosecute corruption offences, when possible and consistent with domestic law and to endeavour to deny these persons and their family members, who knowingly benefit from such property, safe havens and visas, where appropriate and in accordance with domestic legal frameworks and international obligations, also with a view to strengthening international cooperation to facilitate the return of persons sought for corruption offences;

46. *Urges* all Member States to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption, in accordance with the Convention;

47. *Invites* Member States to make every effort to prevent and counter corruption and to implement measures aimed at enhancing transparency in public administration and promoting the integrity and accountability of their criminal justice systems, in accordance with the Convention;

48. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer and laundering of proceeds of corruption, in accordance with the principles of the Convention, and in this regard encourages close and enhanced coordination, cooperation and synergies between anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units;

49. *Also calls for* closer and active collaboration among interested States parties to the Convention, regional organizations and the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, in identifying commendable practices in effective and coordinated approaches to asset recovery consistent with chapter V of the Convention, and encourages in this regard sharing such practices on a voluntary basis with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for collection and dissemination, including through its reports to the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

50. *Stresses* the need for further cooperation and coordination among the different international, regional and subregional organizations and initiatives mandated to prevent and combat corruption;

51. *Urges* Member States to take appropriate measures, within their means and in accordance with fundamental principles of their national law, to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, the private sector and academia, in the prevention of and fight against corruption and to raise public awareness, through, inter alia, media campaigns, regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption, and calls upon Member States to ensure a safe and enabling environment for this participation by making efforts so that the conditions are present for non-government stakeholders to effectively contribute to achieving the objectives of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in accordance with domestic law and the respective applicable international obligations;

52. *Recalls* article 63, paragraph 4 (c), of the Convention, in which it is stated, inter alia, that the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention shall agree upon activities, procedures and methods of work to achieve the objectives set forth in paragraph 1 of that article, including by cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and mechanisms and non-governmental organizations, and in this regard invites the Conference of the States Parties to give further consideration to the implementation of the above-mentioned provision;

53. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, and also requests

the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention is adequately funded, consistent with the resolution adopted by the Conference of the States Parties at its sixth session;[864]

54. *Reiterates its call upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, notes in this context the role that the United Nations Global Compact can play in fighting corruption and promoting transparency, emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability, and in this regard welcomes the adoption on 29 November 2013 of resolution 5/6 on the private sector[865] and the adoption on 6 November 2015 of resolution 6/5, the Saint Petersburg statement on promoting public-private partnership in the prevention of and fight against corruption,[866] by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

55. *Recalls* article 12 of the Convention and calls upon States parties, where appropriate, to adopt or strengthen the anti-corruption measures, and to prevent corruption in the private sector and to provide effective, proportionate and dissuasive civil, administrative or criminal penalties for failure to comply with such measures, necessary for private sector compliance with applicable laws and regulations, organizing opportunities for the exchange of relevant experience and good practices, and to support and promote initiatives to ensure that private sector entities are well equipped to conduct business with integrity and transparency, particularly in their relations with the public sector and other stakeholders, and in fair competition, and to encourage the private sector to take collective action in this regard, including through the establishment of public-private partnerships in the prevention of and fight against corruption;

56. *Encourages* Member States to implement and raise awareness regarding effective anti-corruption education programmes;

57. *Urges* the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption and to facilitate asset recovery and the return and disposal of such proceeds in accordance with the Convention, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting anti-corruption efforts, transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors;

58. *Welcomes* the creation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime anti-corruption hubs as part of its implementation of Conference resolution 9/4, and urges States parties to afford one another, according to their capacities, the widest measure of technical assistance, notably at the regional level, and addressing, upon request, technical assistance priorities, including those identified in the country reviews;

59. *Urges* States parties and signatories to the Convention to strengthen the capacity of legislators, law enforcement officials, judges and prosecutors to combat corruption and to deal with matters relating to asset recovery, including in the areas of mutual legal assistance, confiscation, criminal confiscation and, where appropriate, non-conviction-based forfeiture, as well as civil and administrative proceedings, in accordance with national law and the Convention, and to give the highest consideration to providing technical assistance in those fields, upon request;

60. *Encourages* Member States to exchange and share with each other, including through regional and international organizations, as appropriate, information on lessons learned and good practices, as well as information related to technical assistance activities and initiatives in order to strengthen international efforts to prevent and combat corruption;

61. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to provide regular updates and to expand, where appropriate, the information contained in the relevant databases of knowledge on asset recovery, such as Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge and Asset Recovery Watch, taking into consideration constraints on information-sharing based on confidentiality requirements;

62. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, to expand the global knowledge and data collection on asset recovery and return and continue gathering and sharing information on challenges and good practices, as well as on volumes of assets frozen, seized, confiscated

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[864] See CAC/COSP/2015/10.

[865] See CAC/COSP/2013/18, sect. I.A.

[866] See CAC/COSP/2015/10, sect. I.

and returned in relation to corruption offences, and the number and types of cases, as appropriate, while ensuring the protection of personal data and privacy rights, drawing upon existing efforts, within existing resources;[867]

63. *Encourages* the collection and systematization of good practices and tools for cooperation in asset recovery, including the use and expansion of secure information-sharing tools, consistent with domestic law, with a view to enhancing early, spontaneous and effective information exchange insofar as possible and in accordance with the Convention;

64. *Also encourages* the collection of substantial information duly researched and regularly published by recognized organizations and representatives of civil society;

65. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to make widely available information on their legal frameworks and procedures with regard to asset recovery under chapter V of the Convention, in practical asset recovery, mutual legal assistance and beneficial ownership guides or other formats designed to facilitate use by other States, and to consider, where advisable, the publication of that information in other languages and its dissemination through databases and other digital platforms for that purpose;

66. *Also encourages* States parties to the Convention to share approaches and practical experience for the return of assets, consistent with article 57 of the Convention, for further dissemination through the Secretariat;

67. *Encourages* requesting States to ensure that adequate national investigative procedures have been initiated and substantiated for the purpose of presenting mutual legal assistance requests, and in this context encourages requested States to provide, when appropriate, information on legal frameworks and procedures to the requesting State;

68. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to compile and make available information in accordance with article 52 of the Convention and to take other actions that help to establish the linkage between assets and offences under the Convention;

69. *Notes with appreciation* the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank and its cooperation with relevant partners, including the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities, the International Centre for Asset Recovery and INTERPOL, and encourages coordination among existing initiatives;

70. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in collaboration with the World Bank through the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and in coordination with other relevant stakeholders, upon request, technical assistance for the implementation of chapter V of the Convention, including by providing direct expertise on policy or capacity-building through the Office's Global Programme to prevent and combat corruption through the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in support of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and, where appropriate, regional programmes, using its range of technical assistance tools;

71. *Encourages* Member States to implement effective measures to detect, prevent and counter corruption, as well as the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, and to strengthen international cooperation and assistance to Member States to assist in the identification, freezing or seizure of such assets, as well as in their recovery and return, in accordance with the Convention, in particular chapter V thereof, and in this regard to continue to discuss innovative modalities to improve mutual legal assistance in order to speed up asset recovery proceedings and render them more successful, while also drawing on the experience and knowledge acquired by the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative;

72. *Invites* States parties that have not yet done so to encourage their anti-corruption law enforcement authorities to consider joining, effectively participating in and making best use of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities and to make best use of opportunities for cooperation through other international organizations, networks and entities such as the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and the asset recovery inter-agency networks;[868]

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[867] See CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.A, resolution 9/2, para. 15.

[868] See CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.A, resolution 9/5, para. 3.

73. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to consider, where appropriate, making use of the non-binding Lausanne Guidelines for the Efficient Recovery of Stolen Assets and the supporting step-by-step guide, available online, in their practice and to continue to exchange practical experiences, with a view to keeping the step-by-step guide up to date, as well as enhancing effective approaches to asset recovery based on lessons learned from past cases, being mindful that the Lausanne process can provide an important platform in this regard;

74. *Welcomes* the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate, on education in the area of anti-corruption and the rule of law, including under the Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment initiative, and requests the Office to continue, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources and in close consultation with States parties to the Convention, its efforts to promote education on anti-corruption and the rule of law at all levels – early childhood, primary, secondary, tertiary, adult and distance education, including technical and vocational training;

75. *Also welcomes* the work of the International Anti-Corruption Academy, a centre of excellence for education, training and academic research, takes note with interest of its efforts to launch relevant programmes in the anti-corruption field, including the development of an objective database on existing legal frameworks to fight corruption, and looks forward to its continued efforts to promote the goals and implementation of the Convention;

76. *Recognizes* the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, takes note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the communiqué of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Rome on 30 and 31 October 2021, and urges the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system;

77. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing reporting obligations, to include in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session under the item on crime prevention and criminal justice an analytical section entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption", and also requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Assembly the report of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on its tenth session.

RESOLUTION 77/236

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/464, para. 31)[869]

77/236. Strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[870]

Recalling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[871] and recognizing its integrated and indivisible nature,

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[869] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[870] Resolution 217 A (III).

[871] Resolution 70/1.

Reaffirming the commitments by Member States to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate all forms of trafficking in persons,

Recalling its resolutions 59/156 of 20 December 2004, entitled "Preventing, combating and punishing trafficking in human organs", 73/189 of 17 December 2018, entitled "Strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs", 74/176 of 18 December 2019, entitled "Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons", 75/195 of 16 December 2020, entitled "Strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs", and 76/186 of 16 December 2021, entitled "Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons", as well as Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolutions 23/2 of 16 May 2014[872] and 25/1 of 27 May 2016[873] on preventing and combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[874] and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[875]

Recalling the adoption of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, and underlining the importance of its full implementation,

Welcoming the adoption of the 2021 Political Declaration on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 22 and 23 November 2021,[876]

Recognizing the need for a multidisciplinary approach, based on respect for all human rights, to combating trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal,

Taking note with appreciation of the World Health Organization guiding principles on human cell, tissue and organ transplantation, endorsed by the sixty-third World Health Assembly in its resolution 63.22 of 21 May 2010,[877] and of the Madrid resolution resulting from the Third Global Consultation on Organ Donation and Transplantation, which provides guidance for countries to progress towards self-sufficiency,[878]

Noting the intention of the World Health Organization to administratively transform its Task Force on Donation and Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues, established in June 2018, into an advisory expert group on donation and transplantation of human organs, tissues and cells with a view to improving technical advice and support for the World Health Organization at all levels in disseminating and implementing its guiding principles and in capacity-building in order to ensure ethical practices in organ and tissue donation and transplantation worldwide,

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, on the issue of trafficking in persons for the removal of organs submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session,[879]

Welcoming the joint study by the United Nations and the Council of Europe, entitled "Trafficking in organs, tissues and cells and trafficking in human beings for the purpose of the removal of organs", and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime assessment toolkit, entitled "Trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal", and taking note of the study by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, entitled

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[872] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 10* (E/2014/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[873] Ibid., *2016, Supplement No. 10* (E/2016/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[874] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[875] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

[876] Resolution 76/7, annex.

[877] See World Health Organization, document WHA63/2010/REC/1.

[878] "The Madrid resolution on organ donation and transplantation: national responsibility in meeting the needs of patients, guided by the WHO principles", *Transplantation*, vol. 91, 15 June 2011, pp. S29–S31.

[879] See A/68/256.

"Trafficking in persons for the removal of organs: advancing a human rights approach and engaging human rights mechanisms", and the 2018 edition of the Declaration of Istanbul on Organ Trafficking and Transplant Tourism,

Taking note of the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs as the first legally binding document, open to accession by non-member States of the Council of Europe, that provides a list of activities that constitute trafficking in human organs and includes provisions to prevent and combat this crime, to protect its victims and to promote cooperation among parties in the fight against this crime, which usually has a transnational scope,

Welcoming the statement issued by the World Medical Association on measures for the prevention and fight against transplant-related crimes, adopted by the seventy-first World Medical Association General Assembly in Cordoba, Spain, in October 2020, acknowledging that health-care professionals may play a key role in preventing and combating trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, and calling upon policymakers, health authorities and health-care professionals to take appropriate measures to counter it,

Affirming that trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs constitute two distinct crimes that abuse or impair the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms and have significant negative health implications, and stressing that it is essential to place the protection of all human rights at the centre of measures to prevent and end such trafficking,

Recognizing that, although trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal are distinct crimes, both are related to the shortage of human organs available for transplantation and to social and economic difficulties that put persons in vulnerable situations that have worsened as a result of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and that prevention of and response to both crimes must be undertaken in an effective and coordinated manner,

Considering that the whole process of donation and transplantation of human organs should be an established part of national health services provided to the public, that the process should take place under conditions aimed at the protection of human rights of donors and recipients of organs and that health-care systems should be instrumental in ensuring such conditions,

Considering also that the commercial trade in human organs is prohibited in almost all Member States and that both trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs have a profound impact on the health both of those who sell their organs and of victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, as well as on recipients of organs obtained in such circumstances, and that both crimes might represent a threat to public health and may, in some cases, affect the integrity and the functioning of health-care systems,

Alarmed at the exploitation by criminal groups that take advantage of human needs, poverty and destitution and of other people in vulnerable situations for the purpose of trafficking in human organs, and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal,

Noting the need to protect living donors and recipients, who are usually the most vulnerable members of society, from exploitation by traffickers, including by providing them with relevant information, as well as the need to investigate, prosecute and punish those traffickers and to provide assistance to victims,

Emphasizing the importance of respecting and protecting the rights of victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and, when recognized in national legislation, addressing the vulnerability of victims of trafficking in human organs, and providing assistance, as applicable,

Noting that situations of protracted crises, armed conflict, poverty, natural disasters and violence, the adverse effects of climate change, other environmental challenges, and health, economic, social and humanitarian emergencies can further exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and cause more individuals to become vulnerable to trafficking in persons for organ removal,

Convinced of the need to strengthen local, regional and international cooperation for the effective prevention and combating of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs wherever they occur, and determined to prevent the provision of safe haven to those who participate in or profit from transnational organized crime and to prosecute such persons for the crimes that they commit,

Considering that measures to address trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal referred to in the present resolution should, where appropriate, be extended by the Member States to substances of human origin other than organs, such as tissues and cells,

1. *Urges* Member States to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, in accordance with their obligations under international and national law, and to uphold accountability through measures that may include preventing and, in accordance with relevant national legislation, investigating, prosecuting and punishing trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs;

2. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to, as a matter of priority, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, taking into consideration the central role of those instruments in the fight against trafficking in persons, and urges States parties to those instruments to implement them fully and effectively;

3. *Encourages* Member States, consistent with their obligations under the relevant international instruments, including the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, to criminalize trafficking in persons for organ removal, prevent and combat this specific form of trafficking, protect and assist its victims and promote cooperation;

4. *Also encourages* Member States to further strengthen international cooperation in the fight against trafficking in persons for organ removal, and to harmonize, where appropriate, their legal frameworks in this regard, including by considering signing, ratifying or acceding to relevant international treaties, such as the Council of Europe Convention against Trafficking in Human Organs;

5. *Further encourages* Member States to progress towards self-sufficiency in the transplantation of human organs by developing preventive strategies aimed at decreasing the incidence of diseases treatable through transplantation, and at ethically increasing the availability of human organs for transplantation purposes, with special attention to maximizing donations from deceased donors and to protecting the health and welfare of living donors;

6. *Urges* Member States to consider adopting the following measures related to organ transplantation, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation and in line with the World Health Organization guiding principles on human cell, tissue and organ transplantation:[880]

(a) Strengthening legislative frameworks, including by reviewing, developing or amending them, as appropriate, to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, including the criminalization of these practices and provisions to ensure the accountability of the perpetrators;

(b) Adopting appropriate legislative measures necessary to guarantee that the donation of organs is guided by clinical criteria and ethical norms, based on the donors' informed and voluntary consent, as an altruistic act, performed without any monetary payment or other reward of monetary value, for the living donor or the family of the deceased donor, or any other person or entity, which does not preclude reimbursing reasonable and verifiable expenses incurred by donors;

(c) Ensuring equitable access to human organ transplantation, on the basis of non-discrimination;

(d) Increasing public awareness and understanding of the benefits resulting from the voluntary non-remunerated donation of organs from deceased and living persons, and of the physical, psychological and social risks to individuals and communities caused by trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, as well as transplant tourism;

(e) Ensuring that the removal of human organs from both deceased and living persons, as well as the transplantation of human organs, exclusively take place in centres specifically authorized for such activities by the relevant national health authorities and are not performed outside the framework of domestic transplantation systems or in situations where the transplantation is performed in breach of the guiding principles or national transplantation laws or rules;

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[880] World Health Organization, document WHA63/2010/REC/1, annex 8.

(f) Developing and strengthening regulatory oversight of the medical facilities and medical professionals involved in the recovery and transplantation of human organs, including through control measures, such as periodic audits;

(g) Setting specific processes and criteria for the authorization of every organ removal and transplantation procedure;

(h) Establishing and developing registries that include information regarding each organ recovery and transplantation procedure and outcomes for living donors and recipients of organs, as well as identification systems that facilitate tracing each organ from donor to recipient and vice versa, with the purpose of ensuring the transparency of practices and the quality and safety of human organs, with due regard to professional confidentiality and personal data protection;

(i) Ensuring that these registries are designed to record information on procedures that take place within a country and on transplant and living donation procedures involving residents of that country carried out in other jurisdictions, in accordance with national legislation and relevant international obligations on data protection;

(j) Promoting the voluntary contribution of periodic information to international registers for organ donation and transplantation activity, such as the Global Observatory on Donation and Transplantation developed in collaboration with the World Health Organization, which also collects data on cases of travel for transplantation;

(k) Providing long-term medical and psychosocial care for both living donors and recipients;

7. *Encourages* Member States to prosecute all actors that knowingly engage in trafficking in persons for organ removal, regardless of their status and including physicians, brokers, medical staff and legal persons, such as pharmaceutical and insurance companies;

8. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations and civil society to ensure sustained efforts in terms of information and awareness-raising activities aimed at fostering a positive attitude on the part of society regarding donation, including posthumous donation, as a gesture of altruism, solidarity and community participation, and to warn of the risks of organ removal when performed in the context of trafficking, in particular among people in vulnerable situations at risk of becoming victims of this crime;

9. *Encourages* Member States to develop effective and properly resourced organ donation and transplantation systems and provide technical assistance for their implementation in requesting countries;

10. *Also encourages* Member States to exchange experience in and information on preventing, prosecuting and punishing trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, to combat the illicit financial flows resulting from such trafficking, as well as on the protection of victims, as appropriate, and to strengthen international cooperation between all relevant actors;

11. *Further encourages* Member States to provide training and capacity-building for law enforcement and border control officials, as well as for health-care professionals, on identifying potential cases, including on the Internet, of trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and on the need to certify the origin of organs to be transplanted and to report suspected or confirmed illegal practices;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, in cooperation with national medical associations and/or other relevant professional bodies, to establish, where appropriate, guidelines and toolkits, reporting mechanisms or other necessary frameworks for health-care professionals to report any confirmed or suspected case of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and of trafficking in human organs to the relevant authorities and, where applicable, to ensure that the reporting of trafficking cases is a permitted exception to the physician's obligation to maintain confidentiality;

13. *Urges* Member States to ensure that health authorities and/or insurance providers do not reimburse the costs of transplant procedures that have occurred in the context of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal or trafficking in human organs, although the costs of medications and post-transplant care should be covered under the same conditions that apply to any other transplant recipient;

14. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen international cooperation in responding to the crimes of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, as provided for in domestic and international law;

15. *Urges* Member States to further develop, in their domestic legislation, ways of protecting victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and, as appropriate, ways of addressing the vulnerability of those individuals who sell their organs, including by considering the following measures:

(a) Adopting all necessary measures, including legal measures, guidelines or policies, to protect the rights and interests of victims in the course of all phases of criminal prosecution and judicial proceedings and to ensure accountability, and intensifying efforts, subject to national laws, rules and regulations, to implement the principle of non-punishment of victims of trafficking, under which victims are not to be inappropriately punished or prosecuted for acts that traffickers compelled them to commit or that they committed as a direct consequence of being trafficked;

(b) Facilitating the access of victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and, as allowed by domestic law, of those individuals who sell their organs to relevant information related to their case, while respecting their anonymity, as well as measures to protect their health and other rights;

(c) Providing necessary medical and psychosocial care, as well as support and assistance, including livelihood support, as appropriate, to victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and individuals who sell their organs in the short, medium and long term;

(d) Ensuring that domestic legal systems take measures based on a victim centred-approach that offer victims of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and individuals who sell their organs the possibility of obtaining effective compensation and other remedies, including legal remedies, for the damage suffered, without fear of facing retaliation;

(e) Promoting the creation of governmental mechanisms and providing support to specialized non-governmental organizations, as appropriate, to address the needs of groups at risk of trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal in order to facilitate the provision of holistic and early care to potential or actual victims of those crimes, and ensuring that all support measures are non-discriminatory, gender-, age- and culturally sensitive and comply with international human rights obligations and national legislation;

16. *Encourages* the World Health Organization, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders, to take further steps towards developing a global strategy in the field of organs, tissues and cells that seeks the integration of donation and transplantation into health-care systems in accordance with the World Health Organization guiding principles on human cell, tissue and organ transplantation and that would reference the importance of avoiding trafficking in persons for organ removal and organ trafficking;

17. *Requests* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide guidelines to Member States for developing orderly, ethical and acceptable programmes for the acquisition and transplantation of human organs for therapeutic purposes, with particular attention to low-middle-income countries, and to intensify the coordination of efforts in combating organ trafficking and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, including the development of additional transplantation registries;

18. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to engage in a dialogue with members of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons and other relevant intergovernmental international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization, in close consultation with Member States, so as to enable the Office to improve data collection and analysis on instances of trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and relevant prosecutions, and to promote research among diverse fields, such as the medical and health management fields, as well as on the part of the anti-trafficking community, while bearing in mind that data on trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal are being gathered for the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons*, in accordance with the provisions set out in General Assembly resolution 70/179 of 17 December 2015;

19. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration with other entities of the United Nations system, including the World Health Organization, to continue providing capacity-building and technical assistance to States, upon request, to assist them in strengthening national capacities to effectively prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs, with important tools such as the new United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime toolkit on the investigation and prosecution of trafficking in persons for organ removal;

20. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the purpose of implementing the present resolution and to the World Health Organization to

disseminate and implement the principles endorsed by the World Health Assembly to address the ethical aspects of organ transplantation, such as voluntary and unpaid donation, universal access to transplant services, the availability, safety and quality of the procedures and national accountability through the development of sustainable transplant systems and the achievement of national self-sufficiency in order to stop trafficking in human organs and trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal, as well as transplant tourism;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session, all costs associated with it to be covered by extrabudgetary resources.

22. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice".

RESOLUTION 77/237

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/464, para. 31)[881]

77/237. Strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/152 of 18 December 1991, 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 67/1 of 19 September 2012, 69/193 and 69/196 of 18 December 2014, 70/178 and 70/182 of 17 December 2015, 71/209 of 19 December 2016, 72/196 of 19 December 2017, 73/186 of 17 December 2018, 74/177 of 18 December 2019, 75/196 of 16 December 2020 and 76/187 of 16 December 2021,

Reaffirming also its resolutions relating to the urgent need to strengthen international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting and facilitating the ratification and implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[882] the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[883] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[884] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[885] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[886] and all the international conventions and protocols against terrorism,

Welcoming the results achieved by the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021,[887] including the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[888]

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[881] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Niger, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America.

[882] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[883] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

[884] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[885] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[886] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

[887] See A/CONF.234/16.

[888] Resolution 76/181, annex.

Welcoming also the follow-up process to the Kyoto Declaration by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, including the organization of thematic discussions on the four pillars of the Declaration,

Underscoring the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and reaffirming its resolution 73/183 of 17 December 2018 on enhancing the role of the Commission in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which Member States were encouraged to raise awareness of the work of the Commission in the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Reaffirming its resolution 73/185 of 17 December 2018 on the rule of law, crime prevention and criminal justice in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals,

Expressing its grave concern about the negative effects of transnational organized crime on development, peace, stability and security and human rights, about the increasing vulnerability of States to such crime and about the growing degree of penetration of criminal organizations and their financial and economic resources into the economy,

Expressing concern at the involvement of organized criminal groups, as well as the substantial increase in the volume, rate of transnational occurrence and range of criminal offences related to trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals in some parts of the world, and the potential use of trafficking in precious metals, stones and other minerals as a source of funding for organized crime, other relevant criminal activities and terrorism,

Deeply concerned about the growing links, in some cases, between forms of transnational organized crime and terrorism, recognizing that countering transnational organized crime and terrorism is a common and shared responsibility, and in this respect recalling its resolution 74/175 of 18 December 2019 on technical assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime related to counter-terrorism,

Convinced that the rule of law and development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing and that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through crime prevention and criminal justice mechanisms, is essential for sustained and inclusive economic growth and sustainable development and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and in this respect reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[889] which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and in this respect recalling its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level,

Expressing concern about the unprecedented crisis caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which is reversing hard-won sustainable development gains and may increase the risks of corruption, violence against children, terrorism, transnational organized crime, fraud, financial crime, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, trafficking in drugs and other criminal activities, welcoming the contributions of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant agencies to the sharing of good practices in crisis response and recovery in this context, and reaffirming its resolution 76/184 of 16 December 2021 on strengthening criminal justice systems during and after the COVID-19 pandemic,

Emphasizing that transnational organized crime must be addressed with full respect for the principle of the sovereignty of States and in accordance with the rule of law as part of a comprehensive response to promote durable solutions through the promotion of human rights and more equitable socioeconomic conditions,

Encouraging Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive, evidence-based crime prevention policies, national and local strategies and action plans based on an understanding of the multiple factors that contribute to crime and to address such factors in a holistic manner, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and in this respect stressing that social development and the promotion of the rule of law, including the fostering of a culture of lawfulness while respecting cultural identities, in accordance with the Kyoto Declaration, should be integral elements of strategies to foster crime prevention and economic development in all States,

[889] Resolution 70/1.

Recalling its resolution 74/172 of 18 December 2019 on Education for Justice and the rule of law in the context of sustainable development,

Welcoming the adoption by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption of resolution 9/8 of 17 December 2021 on promoting anti-corruption education, awareness-raising and training,[890] in which the Conference recognized the fundamental role of education in the prevention of and fight against corruption and called upon States parties to continue their efforts to promote anti-corruption educational and training programmes for young people; and invited States parties, in accordance with the fundamental principles of their domestic law, with a view to promoting the active participation of civil society and the media, to undertake public information activities that contribute to promoting public knowledge of anti-corruption laws and regulations and non-tolerance of corruption,

Concerned about violence in urban areas, including armed violence fuelled by the accessibility of trafficked firearms, and recognizing the need for inclusive measures to address urban safety and the prevention of related crime and violence in an integrated, participatory and cross-sectoral manner,

Reaffirming its commitment and strong political will in support of effective, fair, humane and accountable criminal justice systems and the institutions comprising them, encouraging the effective participation and inclusion of all sectors of society, thus creating the conditions needed to advance the wider United Nations agenda, and recognizing the responsibility of Member States to uphold human dignity, all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular for those affected by crime, including young people and women, and those who may be in contact with the criminal justice system, including vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and to prevent and counter hate crimes, as well as crimes motivated by intolerance or discrimination of any kind,

Taking note of Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 25/2 of 27 May 2016 on promoting legal aid, including through a network of legal aid providers,[891] in which the Commission encouraged Member States to adopt or strengthen legislative or other measures to ensure that effective legal aid, including for victims of crime, is provided consistent with their domestic legislation and in line with the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems,[892] and which also contributes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Taking note also of the tenth anniversary of the adoption, by its resolution 67/187 of 20 December 2012, of the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, and recognizing the important role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing assistance to Member States, upon request, in their use and application of the Principles and Guidelines,

Welcoming the efforts made by some Member States to establish a common documentation standard as a tool for facilitating both technical interoperability and accessibility of legal documentation,

Deeply concerned about the negative impact of corruption on development and on the enjoyment of human rights, and recognizing the universal importance of good governance, transparency, integrity and accountability, thus calling for a zero-tolerance approach to corruption and more effective measures to prevent and counter corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as measures to prevent the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of crime,

Bearing in mind its resolution 75/194 of 16 December 2020 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Welcoming the progress made with regard to the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and stressing the importance of full participation by States parties in the Mechanism and the effective implementation of the Convention in all its aspects by all States parties, and welcoming also the progress made with the first review phase of the Mechanism for the

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[890] See CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.A.

[891] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2016, Supplement No. 10* (E/2016/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[892] Resolution 67/187, annex.

Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, following resolution 10/1 of 16 October 2020 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[893] by which the Conference launched the first review phase of the Mechanism,

Taking note of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Development Programme *Manual on Corruption Surveys* and the development of methodological tools, standards and guidelines that can support countries in producing comparable and up-to-date statistics on corruption, including in the context of Sustainable Development Goal implementation, and welcoming in this regard resolution 8/10 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[894]

Bearing in mind that, pursuant to chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the return of assets is one of the main objectives, an integral part and a fundamental principle of the Convention and that the States parties to the Convention shall afford one another the widest measure of cooperation and assistance in that regard, and welcoming in this regard resolution 9/7 of 17 December 2021 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[895]

Recognizing that, thanks to their nearly universal adherence and wide scope of application, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[896] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption offer fundamental legal bases for international cooperation to support the investigation and prosecution of crimes covered by those Conventions, including for extradition, mutual legal assistance and confiscation and asset recovery, and that they provide effective mechanisms that should be further implemented and utilized in practice,

Welcoming the political declaration entitled "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation", adopted by the General Assembly at its thirty-second special session, held at United Nations Headquarters from 2 to 4 June 2021,[897]

Recognizing the efforts of the Group of 20 in countering corruption at both the global and the national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the Leaders' Declaration of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Rome on 30 and 31 October 2021, and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other States Members of the United Nations and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

Stressing the importance of strengthened international cooperation, based on the principles of common and shared responsibility and in accordance with international law, to effectively address the world drug problem, dismantle illicit networks and counter transnational organized crime, including money-laundering, illicit financial flows, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, trafficking in arms and other forms of organized crime, all of which threaten national security and undermine sustainable development and the rule of law, and stressing also in this respect the importance of law enforcement cooperation and exchange of information, in accordance with international law, as well as of designated central authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for extradition and mutual legal assistance requests, as well as the importance of the coordinating role of relevant regional networks,

Welcoming the high-level debate of the General Assembly held on 6 June 2022 on the theme "Enhancing youth mainstreaming in crime prevention policies", and taking note of the summary of the discussion prepared by the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and transmitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to all Member States,

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[893] See CTOC/COP/2020/10, sect. I.A.

[894] See CAC/COSP/2019/17, sect. I.B.

[895] See CAC/COSP/2021/17, sect. I.A.

[896] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

[897] Resolution S-32/1, annex.

Noting the important contribution that public-private sector cooperation can make in efforts to prevent and combat criminal activities, such as transnational organized crime, corruption, cybercrime and terrorism, in particular in the tourism sector,

Reaffirming the commitments made by Member States in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,[898] and its successive biennial reviews, in particular in its resolution 75/291 of 30 June 2021, in which it encouraged Member States and United Nations entities to strengthen and better coordinate their actions against terrorism and to prevent and combat violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, including through technical assistance provided to Member States upon their request, and highlighting in this respect the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established through its resolution 71/291 of 15 June 2017, and that of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities on strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,

Highlighting the importance of its resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism and on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism adopted at its seventy-third to seventy-sixth sessions,

Expressing concern that terrorists may benefit from transnational organized crime in some regions, including from trafficking in arms, drugs and cultural property, as well as trafficking in persons and in human organs, and from the illicit trade in natural resources, including oil, and in oil products, modular refineries and related material, precious metals, stones and other minerals, charcoal and wildlife, as well as from kidnapping for ransom and other crimes, including extortion, money-laundering and bank robbery, emphasizing the need to enhance cooperation at the national, subregional, regional and international levels to strengthen responses to this challenge, and condemning the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated by terrorist groups in some countries,

Recalling its resolution 66/177 of 19 December 2011 on strengthening international cooperation in combating the harmful effects of illicit financial flows resulting from criminal activities, in which it urged States parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Corruption to apply fully the provisions of those Conventions, in particular measures to prevent and combat money-laundering, including by criminalizing the laundering of proceeds of transnational organized crime, as well as measures to enhance national confiscation regimes and international cooperation, including in asset recovery, and recalling also its resolution 76/196 of 17 December 2021, in which, inter alia, it reiterated its deep concern about the impact of illicit financial flows, in particular those caused by tax evasion, corruption and transnational organized crime, on the economic, social and political stability and development of societies, and especially on developing countries,

Noting with concern the misuse of virtual assets and related payment methods by criminal individuals and transnational organized crime groups to raise, move and store funds, including the proceeds of crime, as well as the potential use of emerging payment methods, such as prepaid cards and mobile payments or virtual assets, by terrorists and terrorist groups,

Taking into consideration all resolutions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, in particular those relating to the strengthening of international cooperation, as well as to the technical assistance and advisory services of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fields of crime prevention and criminal justice, promotion and reinforcement of the rule of law and reform of criminal justice institutions, including with regard to the implementation of technical assistance to Member States in improving systems for collecting and analysing data on crime prevention and criminal justice at all levels,

Noting the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations system task force on transnational organized crime and drug trafficking as threats to security and stability for the purpose of developing an effective and comprehensive approach to those crimes within the United Nations system, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard, as reflected in the Charter of the United Nations,

[898] Resolution 60/288.

Recognizing the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the delivery of advisory services and technical assistance to requesting Member States in the areas of crime prevention, including youth crime prevention through sport, and criminal justice reform, data and information analysis, preventing and countering organized crime, corruption, piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, cybercrime, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies as well as such misuse for terrorist purposes, crimes that affect the environment, such as illicit trafficking in wildlife, including, inter alia, flora and fauna as protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,[899] in timber and timber products, in hazardous waste, as well as, inter alia, poaching, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, counterfeiting in trademark goods, match-fixing, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, kidnapping, smuggling of migrants, organ trafficking, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, drug trafficking and trafficking in falsified medical products, as well as terrorism, including progress in tackling the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters, including those who are returning and relocating, and preventing chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear terrorism, as well as in the area of international cooperation, with special emphasis on extradition and mutual legal assistance and the international transfer of sentenced persons,

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of an integrated approach to programming and to technical assistance delivery at the global, regional and national levels, through the continuous linkages between the normative, operational and research components of its mandate, and based on continuing consultations and partnerships at the national, regional and global levels, particularly on its implementation, and focused on ensuring that the Office responds in a sustainable and coherent manner to the priorities of Member States,

Reiterating its concern regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and welcoming the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office,

Welcoming Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 26/3 of 26 May 2017 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into crime prevention and criminal justice policies and programmes and into efforts to prevent and combat transnational organized crime,[900]

Reiterating its condemnation of all forms of violence against women and girls, noting with deep concern the increase in cases of violence against women and girls and in obstacles to their access to justice during the COVID-19 pandemic, and in this respect reaffirming its resolutions 65/228 of 21 December 2010, 71/170 of 19 December 2016, 72/149 of 19 December 2017 and 73/148 of 17 December 2018, recalling the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council addressing various aspects of violence against women and girls of all ages, and recalling also the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-seventh session, which addressed the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls,[901]

Expressing deep concern about the gender-related killing of women and girls, recalling its relevant resolutions,[902] recognizing the key role of law enforcement and the criminal justice system in preventing and responding to the gender-related killing of women and girls, including by ending impunity for such crimes, and noting in this respect paragraph (d) of Statistical Commission decision 53/113 of 11 March 2022,[903]

Noting the significance of the updated Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice[904] as a way to assist countries in strengthening their national crime prevention and criminal justice capacities to respond to all forms of violence against women and girls,

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[899] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

[900] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 10* (E/2017/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[901] Ibid., *2013, Supplement No. 7* (E/2013/27), chap. I, sect. A.

[902] Resolutions 68/191 and 70/176.

[903] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2022, Supplement No. 4* (E/2022/24), chap. I, sect. C.

[904] Resolution 65/228, annex.

Recalling its resolution 69/194 of 18 December 2014, by which it adopted the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, convinced of the importance of preventing youth crime, including through sports, supporting the rehabilitation of young offenders and their reintegration into society, protecting in particular child victims of all forms of violence, including those in contact with the law and witnesses, including efforts to prevent their revictimization, and addressing the needs of children of prisoners, stressing that such responses should take into account the human rights and best interests of children and young people, consistent with the obligations of the States parties under relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[905] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[906] and noting other relevant United Nations standards and norms in juvenile justice, where appropriate,

Recalling also its resolutions 74/170 of 18 December 2019 and 76/183 of 16 December 2021, entitled "Integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies",

Emphasizing the relevance of international instruments and United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice related to the treatment of prisoners, in particular women and juveniles,

Recalling its resolutions 70/146 of 17 December 2015 and 74/143 of 18 December 2019, in which it reaffirmed that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Stressing the importance of the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials[907] and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials,[908] which are voluntary United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice that emphasize, inter alia, efficient and human rights-based policing,

Recalling its resolution 65/229 of 21 December 2010 on the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules), and in this regard encouraging the efforts of Member States to implement the Bangkok Rules,

Welcoming the adoption, by its resolution 70/175 of 17 December 2015, of the revision to the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules), and reaffirming its resolution 72/193 of 19 December 2017, in which, inter alia, Member States were encouraged to endeavour to improve conditions of imprisonment and to promote the practical application of the Nelson Mandela Rules as the universally acknowledged and updated minimum standards for the treatment of prisoners, to use the Rules as a guide in the development of prison laws, policies and practices, to continue exchanging good practices and identifying challenges faced in the practical application of the Rules and to share their experiences in dealing with those challenges,

Welcoming also Economic and Social Council resolution 2017/19 of 6 July 2017 on promoting and encouraging the implementation of alternatives to imprisonment as part of comprehensive crime prevention and criminal justice policies,

Reiterating its strong condemnation of trafficking in persons, which constitutes a serious crime and a grave offence to human dignity and physical integrity, a violation or abuse of human rights and a challenge to sustainable development and requires the implementation of a comprehensive approach that includes measures to prevent such trafficking, to punish the traffickers and to identify and protect the victims of such trafficking, and a robust criminal justice response, and recalling in this respect the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[909] and its resolutions 71/167 of 19 December 2016, 72/195 of 19 December 2017, 73/146 of 17 December 2018, 74/176 of 18 December 2019, 75/158 of 16 December 2020 and 76/186 of 16 December 2021,

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[905] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

[906] Ibid., vols. 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

[907] Resolution 34/169, annex.

[908] See *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August–7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.

[909] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

Bearing in mind its resolutions 73/189 of 17 December 2018 and 75/195 of 16 December 2020 on strengthening and promoting effective measures and international cooperation on organ donation and transplantation to prevent and combat trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal and trafficking in human organs,

Reaffirming its resolutions 72/1 of 27 September 2017 and 76/7 of 22 November 2021, by which it adopted political declarations on the implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,

Underlining that Member States need to recognize that the crime of smuggling of migrants and the crime of trafficking in persons are distinct crimes and require separate and complementary legal, operational and policy responses, while recognizing that smuggled migrants might also become victims of trafficking in persons and therefore require appropriate protection and assistance, and recalling its resolutions 69/187 of 18 December 2014, 70/147 of 17 December 2015, 72/179 of 19 December 2017, 74/148 of 18 December 2019 and 76/172 of 16 December 2021, in which it called upon all Member States to protect and assist migrants, including migrant children and youth, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 2014/23 of 16 July 2014, 2015/23 of 21 July 2015, 2017/18 of 6 July 2017 and 2021/25 of 22 July 2021 and Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 30/1 of 21 May 2021,[910]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, in which it, inter alia, committed to taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour,

Recalling its resolution 71/1 of 19 September 2016, by which it adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, which addresses the issue of large movements of refugees and migrants,

Stressing the importance for Member States to take legislative or other measures to prevent, combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in the context of international migration by strengthening capacities and international cooperation to investigate, prosecute and penalize trafficking in persons, discouraging demand that fosters exploitation leading to trafficking, and ending impunity of trafficking networks,

Welcoming the work of the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, established in accordance with the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons, adopted by its resolution 64/293 of 30 July 2010, as well as the important contribution of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons, within its mandate, to the implementation of the Global Plan of Action, and of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Concerned at the growing involvement of terrorist and organized criminal groups in all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and alarmed by the destruction of cultural heritage perpetrated by terrorist groups, which is linked to trafficking in cultural property in some countries and to financing of terrorist activities,

Recognizing the indispensable role of crime prevention and criminal justice responses in combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences in a comprehensive and effective manner, and underlining the importance of the technical assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime aimed at supporting the implementation of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences[911] and at facilitating operational cooperation against all forms of trafficking in cultural property, including through the practical assistance tool developed to that end,

Welcoming Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 27/5 of 18 May 2018,[912] which focused on the need to strengthen international cooperation to prevent and counter trafficking in cultural property, including through judicial cooperation and mutual legal assistance, and noting the efforts of Member States to implement General Assembly resolutions 68/186 of 18 December 2013, 69/196, and 73/130 of 13 December 2018,

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[910] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2021, Supplement No. 10* (E/2021/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[911] Resolution 69/196, annex.

[912] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 10* (E/2018/30), chap. I, sect. C.

Affirming that the destruction of cultural heritage, which is representative of the diversity of human culture, erases the collective memories of a nation, destabilizes communities and threatens their cultural identity, and emphasizing the importance of cultural diversity and pluralism as well as freedom of religion and belief for achieving peace, stability, reconciliation and social cohesion, and recalling in this respect its resolution 73/130,

Reaffirming the intrinsic value of biological diversity and its various contributions to sustainable development and human well-being, and recognizing that wild fauna and flora in their many beautiful and varied forms are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the Earth which must be protected for this generation and the generations to come,

Taking note of the *World Wildlife Crime Report: Trafficking in Protected Species*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in 2020,

Emphasizing that the protection of wildlife must be part of a comprehensive approach to achieving poverty eradication, food security, sustainable development, including the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, economic growth, social well-being and sustainable livelihoods,

Expressing deep concern about crimes that affect the environment, including illicit trafficking in endangered and, where applicable, protected species of wild fauna and flora, in timber and timber products, in hazardous waste and other wastes, illegal mining and crimes in the fisheries sector, as well as, inter alia, poaching, and emphasizing the need to prevent and combat such crimes by strengthening coordinated action to eliminate, prevent and combat corruption and disrupt illicit networks and also by coordinating international cooperation, capacity-building, criminal justice responses and law enforcement efforts,

Recognizing, in this respect, the legal framework provided by and the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora as the primary mechanism for regulating international trade in species of wild fauna and flora listed in its appendices,

Recalling the adoption of its resolutions 71/326 of 11 September 2017, 73/343 of 16 September 2019 and 75/311 of 23 July 2021 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, and welcoming Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 28/3 of 24 May 2019[913] and resolution 8/12 of 20 December 2019 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[914]

Concerned at the growing trend of cybercrime and the misuse of information and communications technologies in multiple forms of crime, and recalling its resolutions 73/187 of 17 December 2018, 74/173 of 18 December 2019, 74/247 of 27 December 2019 and 75/282 of 26 May 2021, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 2019/19 and 2019/20 of 23 July 2019,

Stressing the need to enhance coordination and cooperation among Member States in combating cybercrime, including by providing technical assistance to developing countries, upon request, to improve national legislation and enhance the capacity of national authorities to deal with cybercrime in all its forms, including its prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution, emphasizing in this context the role that the United Nations, in particular the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, plays, and reaffirming the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

Deeply concerned about the increasing harm caused by, and the negative impact of, illicitly manufactured and trafficked firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and about the links of such trafficking with other forms of transnational organized crime, including drug trafficking, as well as terrorism, and noting that reducing the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunitions is one of the major components of the efforts to reduce the power of transnational organized criminal groups and the violence that accompanies their activities, and noting the adoption of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 65/2 of 18 March 2022, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation to address the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking",[915]

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[913] Ibid., *2019, Supplement No. 10* (E/2019/30), chap. I, sect. D.

[914] See CAC/COSP/2019/17, sect. I.B.

[915] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2022, Supplement No. 8* (E/2022/28), chap. I, sect. B.

Noting international efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in conventional arms, in particular in small arms and light weapons, as demonstrated by the adoption in 2001 of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[916] the entry into force in 2005 of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[917] and the entry into force in 2014 of the Arms Trade Treaty,[918] and noting also the common themes and complementary character of these instruments,

Recalling its resolution 76/232 of 24 December 2021, as well as all previous resolutions on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

Welcoming the 2019 Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem, adopted during the ministerial segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[919] in which Member States committed to accelerating, based on the principle of common and shared responsibility, the full implementation of the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[920] the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action[921] and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016,[922] aimed at achieving all commitments, operational recommendations and aspirational goals set out therein,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared pursuant to resolution 76/187;[923]

2. *Reaffirms* its resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which, inter alia, includes the commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States, when appropriate, to take into consideration the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted at the high-level segment of the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held in Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 12 March 2021, when formulating legislation and policy directives, and to make every effort, where appropriate, to implement the principles contained therein in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States;

4. *Encourages* Member States to promote the integrity, honesty and responsibility of criminal justice practitioners through specialized training and the application of codes or standards of conduct, and in this context notes the work of the Global Judicial Integrity Network aimed at strengthening judicial integrity;

5. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the international conventions and protocols related to terrorism, and urges States

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[916] *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[917] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2326, No. 39574.

[918] Ibid., vol. 3013, No. 52373.

[919] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8* (E/2019/28), chap. I, sect. B.

[920] Ibid., *2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[921] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[922] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

[923] A/77/127.

parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation, particularly with regard to preventing and combating transnational organized crime, including cybercrime;

6. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto represent the most important tools of the international community for fighting transnational organized crime, including cybercrime, notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 190, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating transnational organized crime, and recalls in this respect resolution 10/4 of 16 October 2020 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[924] in which the Conference emphasized the continued relevance of the Convention, including in countering new, emerging and evolving forms of transnational organized crime, and urges States parties to make, consistent with their national legislation, the widest possible use of the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation in criminal matters, taking note in this respect of the relevant United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime digest of cases, which was released in October 2021;

7. *Recognizes* that technical assistance and economic development are fundamental to ensuring the effective implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, and recalls in this regard article 30 of the Convention;

8. *Welcomes* the progress made by States parties in their participation in the review process of the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, in accordance with resolution 10/1 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and urges States parties to continue to actively participate in and support the review process;

9. *Encourages* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to submit case law, legislation and other relevant responses to the knowledge management portal known as Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime;

10. *Welcomes* the resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth, ninth and tenth sessions, held in Vienna from 17 to 21 October 2016, from 15 to 19 October 2018 and from 12 to 16 October 2020, respectively, to promote greater use of the Convention by central authorities in extradition and mutual legal assistance and to enhance the effectiveness of these authorities and to strengthen, as appropriate, the implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

11. *Also welcomes* the thirty-second special session of the General Assembly, held at United Nations Headquarters from 2 to 4 June 2021, at which the Assembly adopted a political declaration entitled "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation";

12. *Urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to continue to provide full support to the review mechanism adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, welcomes the progress made under the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention, and further notes with appreciation that the number of States parties has reached 188, which is a significant indication of the commitment shown by the international community to combating corruption and related crimes;

13. *Also urges* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to increase their efforts and to take measures to prevent and counter corruption, with the necessary focus on, among others, acts of corruption that involve vast quantities of assets, without undermining their commitment to preventing and countering corruption at all levels and in all forms, calls upon States parties to the Convention to take measures to ensure that legal and natural persons are held accountable for corruption offences, including when they involve bribery and vast quantities of assets, in accordance with the Convention, and notes with appreciation the creation of regional anti-corruption hubs by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to better support States parties in these endeavours;

[924] See CTOC/COP/2020/10, sect. I.A.

14. *Takes note* of the creation of the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities under the auspices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and encourages States to participate in and make best use of this network, as appropriate;

15. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in the implementation of their respective mandates, and calls upon States parties to give full effect to the resolutions adopted by those bodies, including providing information regarding compliance with the treaties;

16. *Encourages* Member States, in accordance with their domestic law, to strengthen the capacity of their respective criminal justice systems to investigate, prosecute and punish crime, while supporting an accessible, effective, fair, humane, transparent and accountable criminal justice system and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of defendants, as well as the rights and legitimate interests of victims and witnesses, and to adopt and reinforce measures to ensure access to effective legal aid in criminal justice systems, and in this context takes note of the establishment of the Global Judicial Integrity Network in April 2018;

17. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, including, inter alia, in the field of international cooperation in criminal matters, to strengthen the rule of law, also taking into account the work undertaken by other United Nations entities, within existing mandates, as well as regional and bilateral efforts, and to continue to ensure coordination and coherence, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group;

18. *Calls for* greater coordination and coherence among United Nations entities and with stakeholders, including donors, host countries and recipients of capacity-building, in countering transnational organized crime;

19. *Reiterates* the importance of providing the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme with sufficient, stable and predictable funding for the full implementation of its mandates;

20. *Encourages* all States to have national and local action plans for crime prevention in order to take into account, in a comprehensive, integrated and participatory manner, inter alia, factors that place certain populations and places at higher risk of victimization and/or of offending, and to ensure that such plans are based on the best available evidence and good practices, and stresses that crime prevention should be considered an integral element of strategies to foster social and economic development in all States, in accordance with the commitments contained in General Assembly resolutions 70/1 and 70/299;

21. *Recommends* that Member States adopt multisectoral crime prevention policies and programmes for youth and increase their meaningful and inclusive participation therein, including through sport and education, taking into consideration their varying needs, and safeguard their well-being, recognizing that youth may face specific challenges and risk factors that make them particularly vulnerable to crime, all forms of violence, terrorism and victimization, and in this respect recalls its resolutions 74/170 and 76/183, entitled "Integrating sport into youth crime prevention and criminal justice strategies", Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/18 of 26 July 2016, entitled "Mainstreaming holistic approaches in youth crime prevention" and further recalls the provision of the Kyoto Declaration on empowering youth by organizing social, educational, cultural, recreational, sports-related youth programmes and youth forums;

22. *Takes note* of the launch of the Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment (GRACE) initiative by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and requests the Office to continue, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources and in close consultation with Member States, its efforts to develop educational materials on fighting corruption and on the rule of law, and enhance cooperation with and build the capacity of relevant criminal justice authorities and educational institutions;

23. *Encourages* States to continue to build on the discussions of important forums such as the high-level debate of the General Assembly held on 6 June 2022 on the theme "Enhancing youth mainstreaming in crime prevention policies", and urges the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to support Member States, upon request, in developing comprehensive efforts to address the vulnerabilities of children and youth in contact with the criminal justice system as well as to empower youth to become active agents of positive change in their communities to support crime prevention efforts;

24. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, to hold, within existing resources and during the

seventy-seventh session, a high-level debate on the theme "Equal access to justice for all: advancing reforms for peaceful, just and inclusive societies" and to prepare a summary of the discussion for transmission to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and to all Member States;

25. *Urges* Member States, in cooperation with the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, to develop national, subregional, regional and international strategies, with the support of relevant international organizations, as appropriate, and other necessary measures, including the establishment, in accordance with international obligations and domestic legislation, of designated central and competent authorities and effective points of contact dedicated to facilitating the procedures related to international cooperation, including for extradition and mutual legal assistance requests, in order to effectively address transnational organized crime; to strengthen all forms of cooperation in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for asset recovery, in particular chapter V, with the cooperation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate; and to inform accordingly the Office about existing or updated contact details of such authorities and points of contact to facilitate international cooperation as appropriate;

26. *Encourages* Member States to study the implementation of a common documentation standard, including within the United Nations system and in cooperation with relevant international institutions;

27. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, as well as of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the fulfilment of its mandate in crime prevention and criminal justice, including providing to Member States, upon request and as a matter of high priority, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance, and coordinating with and complementing the work of all relevant and competent United Nations bodies and offices in respect of all forms of organized crime, including piracy and transnational organized crime committed at sea, cybercrime, criminal misuse of the Internet and other information and communications technologies as well as such misuse for terrorist purposes, the misuse of new information technologies to abuse and exploit children, trafficking in cultural property and artefacts, illicit financial flows, money-laundering, economic and financial crimes, including fraud, as well as tax and corporate crimes, match-fixing, counterfeiting in trademark goods, illicit trafficking in endangered species of wild fauna and flora and other crimes that affect the environment, such as trafficking in timber, hazardous waste, precious metals, stones and other minerals, drug trafficking, kidnapping, trafficking in persons, including the support and protection, as appropriate, of victims, their families and witnesses, organ trafficking, smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, direct and indirect trade in oil and refined oil products with organized criminal and terrorist groups, as well as corruption and terrorism;

28. *Encourages* Member States to collect relevant information and to further identify, analyse and counter any existing, growing or potential links, in some cases, between transnational organized crime, the illicit access to and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, illicit drug-related activities, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, in order to enhance criminal justice responses to those crimes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its relevant mandates, to support, upon request, the efforts of Member States in that regard;

29. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other institutions, on the development of a methodology to produce estimates of the total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows, and encourages the Office, within its relevant mandates and in cooperation with Member States, to continue its work on studying illicit financial flows related to criminal activities, in line with this methodology;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen cooperation at the international, regional, subregional and bilateral levels to counter the threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, including those who are returning and relocating, including through enhanced operational and timely information-sharing, logistical support, as appropriate, and capacity-building activities, such as those provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to share and adopt best practices to identify foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent the travel of foreign terrorist fighters from, into or through Member States, to prevent the financing, mobilization, recruitment and organization of foreign terrorist fighters, to prevent and counter violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, to enhance efforts to implement prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration strategies, taking into account gender and age dimensions, and to ensure that any person who participates in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts or in the supporting of terrorist acts is brought to justice, in compliance with obligations under international law, as

well as applicable domestic law, and requests the Office to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, in this regard in cooperation and coordination with the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities;

31. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to further enhance technical assistance, upon request, for building the capacity of Member States to become party to and implement the international conventions and protocols related to counter-terrorism, including through targeted programmes and the training of relevant criminal justice and law enforcement officials, upon request, and the development of technical tools, publications and programmes, within its mandate, and in this respect takes note with appreciation of the development of the new Global Programme on Preventing and Countering Terrorism of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which enables the Office to pursue partnership-based and people-centred technical assistance in support of Member States' requests for technical assistance on the international conventions and protocols against terrorism;

32. *Calls upon* Member States to address the threat posed by radicalization to terrorism in prisons, and calls upon the United Nations, especially the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to support Member States in this regard in cooperation and coordination with the Office of Counter-Terrorism and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities;

33. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to increase collaboration with intergovernmental, international and regional organizations that have transnational organized crime mandates, as appropriate, in order to share best practices, foster cooperation and take advantage of their unique and comparative advantage;

34. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its country and regional offices in building capacity at the local level in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and urges the Office to consider regional vulnerabilities, projects and impacts in the fight against transnational organized crime in all its forms, in particular in developing countries, when deciding to close and allocate offices, with a view to maintaining an effective level of support to national and regional efforts in those areas;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with adequate resources to support, in an effective manner, efforts towards the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the conferences of the parties to the conventions, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as well as the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice, in accordance with its mandate, and requests the Secretariat to continue to provide support to the Commissions within their respective mandates, enabling them to actively contribute, as appropriate, to the global follow-up and the thematic review of progress made by Member States in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals as set forth in resolutions 70/299, and 72/305 of 23 July 2018;

36. *Urges* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its research, operational and technical cooperation activities;

37. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General, also considering the extension of the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office, to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

38. *Invites* States and other interested parties to make further voluntary contributions to the United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and to the United Nations voluntary trust fund on contemporary forms of slavery;

39. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify national and international efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination, including racism, religious intolerance, xenophobia and gender-related discrimination by, inter alia,

raising awareness, developing educational materials and programmes and considering, where appropriate, drafting and enforcing legislation against discrimination;

40. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting vulnerable members of society, regardless of their status, who may be subject to multiple and aggravated forms of discrimination, and in that regard expresses its concern about the increase in the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law;

41. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure equal access to justice for all, in order to reach the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and to follow up on the provisions of the Kyoto Declaration;

42. *Also calls upon* Member States to implement, when appropriate, the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[925] bearing in mind their spirit and purpose, and to intensify their efforts to address the challenge of prison overcrowding through appropriate criminal justice reforms, which should include, where appropriate, a review of penal policies and practical measures to reduce pretrial detention, to enhance the use of non-custodial sanctions and measures and to improve access to legal aid to the extent possible, bearing in mind the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States, upon request, in this respect;

43. *Reaffirms* its resolution 76/182 of 16 December 2021 on reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and reintegration, and encourages Member States to promote a rehabilitative environment in correctional facilities and multi-stakeholder partnerships to reduce reoffending by fostering inter-agency coordination among relevant government authorities;

44. *Emphasizes* the need for all Member States to promote, where appropriate, cooperation on the transfer of sentenced persons to serve the rest of their sentences in their own countries, conclude bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements in this regard as necessary, taking into consideration the rights of sentenced persons and issues relating to consent, rehabilitation and reintegration, as appropriate, and raise awareness among these prisoners about the availability of such measures;

45. *Invites* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into their criminal justice systems, including by the use of non-custodial measures for women, when appropriate, and by improving the treatment of women prisoners, taking into consideration the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[926] and by developing and implementing national strategies and plans to promote the full protection of women and girls from all acts of violence and to strengthen the crime prevention and criminal justice response to the gender-related killing of women and girls, in particular by taking measures to support the practical capacity of Member States to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish all forms of such crime, and welcomes in this respect the practical tools recommended by the open-ended intergovernmental expert group on gender-related killing of women and girls at its meeting held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 November 2014;[927]

46. *Also invites* Member States to integrate child- and youth-related issues into their criminal justice reform efforts, recognizing the importance of protecting children from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse, consistent with the obligations of parties under relevant international instruments, and to develop comprehensive child-sensitive justice policies focused on the best interests of the child, consistent with the principle that the deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time;

47. *Recognizes* the efforts made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist Member States in developing their abilities and strengthening their capacity to prevent and combat kidnapping, and requests the Office

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[925] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[926] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[927] See E/CN.15/2015/16.

to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, with a view to fostering international cooperation, in particular mutual legal assistance, aimed at countering effectively this growing serious crime;

48. *Calls upon* Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to, and for States parties to effectively implement, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[928] to reinforce international cooperation for preventing and combating the smuggling of migrants and for the prosecution of smugglers, in accordance, as appropriate, with article 6 of the Protocol and with national laws and legislation, while effectively protecting the rights and respecting the dignity of smuggled migrants, consistent with the principles of non-discrimination and other applicable obligations under relevant international law, taking into account the special needs of women, children, especially when unaccompanied, and persons with disabilities and older persons, and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

49. *Takes note* of the first *Global Study on Smuggling of Migrants* published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, encourages Member States to promote the reliable collection of relevant data and research, at the national and, as appropriate, the regional and international levels, invites the Office to systematically collect data and information from Member States on migrant smuggling routes, the modi operandi of migrant smugglers and the role of transnational organized crime, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for this purpose;

50. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that, in investigating and prosecuting trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, the concurrent undertaking of financial investigations is a standard practice, with a view to tracing, freezing and confiscating proceeds acquired through those crimes, and to consider trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants to be predicate offences of money-laundering;

51. *Takes note* of the launch by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime of the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2020*, recognizes that the Global Report on Trafficking in Persons is a useful resource facilitating information-sharing on the nature, scope and trends of trafficking in persons, as well as modi operandi of traffickers, and encourages Member States to submit to the Office information on patterns, forms and flows of trafficking in persons for purposes of compiling future global reports;

52. *Emphasizes* the importance of preventing and combating all forms of trafficking in persons, and in this regard expresses its concern about the activities of transnational and national organized criminal groups and others who profit from such crimes, including for the purpose of organ removal, and calls upon Member States to consider ratifying or acceding to, and for States parties, in accordance with their obligations, to fully and effectively implement the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as well as to strengthen national efforts to combat all forms of trafficking in persons and to protect and assist the victims of trafficking in accordance with all relevant legal obligations and in collaboration with international organizations, civil society and the private sector, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its technical assistance to Member States in accordance with the Protocol;

53. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance its technical assistance to Member States, upon request, to strengthen international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, including the phenomenon of travelling, returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters, especially with regard to extradition and mutual legal assistance, and its financial sources, through the facilitation of the ratification and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism, in close consultation and cooperation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism (the Counter-Terrorism Committee) and its Executive Directorate, as well as to contribute to the work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established in accordance with resolution 71/291, and of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, and invites Member States to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with appropriate resources for its mandate;

54. *Urges* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, within its mandate, technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism through

[928] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism, in accordance with United Nations-related instruments and international standards, including, where applicable, standards and relevant initiatives of regional, interregional and multilateral organizations and intergovernmental bodies against money-laundering, inter alia and as appropriate, the Financial Action Task Force, in accordance with national legislation;

55. *Takes note* of the Model Legislative Provisions to Support the Needs and Protect the Rights of Victims of Terrorism, developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime together with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Office of Counter-Terrorism;

56. *Encourages* Member States to enhance the effectiveness of countering criminal threats to the tourism sector, including terrorist threats, through, when appropriate, the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations, in cooperation with the World Tourism Organization and the private sector;

57. *Affirms* that attacks intentionally directed against buildings dedicated to religion, education, art, science or charitable purposes, or historic monuments, or hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, may amount to war crimes, stresses the importance of holding accountable perpetrators of attacks intentionally directed against the above-mentioned buildings, provided that they are not military objectives, and calls upon all States to take appropriate action to this end within their jurisdiction in accordance with applicable international law;

58. *Urges* States parties to make effective use of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime for broad cooperation in preventing and combating all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, including money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, especially in returning such confiscated proceeds of crime or property to their legitimate owners, in accordance with article 14, paragraph 2, of the Convention;

59. *Encourages* States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to promptly notify countries of origin when objects that may be cultural property removed from their territory are identified, and to exchange information and statistical data on all forms and aspects of trafficking in cultural property and related offences, and reaffirms in this regard the importance of the International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with Respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/196;

60. *Urges* Member States to introduce effective national and international measures to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in cultural property, including publicizing legislation, international guidelines and related technical background documents, and offering special training for police, customs and border services, and invites Member States to make trafficking in cultural property and related offences, including stealing from and looting of archaeological and other cultural sites, a serious crime, as defined in article 2 (b) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

61. *Also urges* Member States to take decisive steps at the national level to prevent, combat and eradicate the illegal trade in wildlife, on both the supply and demand sides, including by strengthening the legislation necessary for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of such illegal trade, as well as by strengthening enforcement and criminal justice responses, in accordance with national legislation and international law, acknowledging that the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime can provide valuable technical assistance in this regard;

62. *Calls upon* Member States to make illicit trafficking in protected species of wild fauna and flora and other crimes that affect the environment, such as trafficking in wildlife, timber and hazardous waste, involving organized criminal groups a serious crime in accordance with their national legislation and with article 2 (b) of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

63. *Also calls upon* Member States to develop or amend national legislation, as necessary and appropriate, in accordance with fundamental principles of their domestic law, so that crimes that affect the environment falling within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime are treated as predicate offences, as defined in the Convention and as mandated in its article 6, for the purposes of money-laundering offences and are actionable under domestic legislation on proceeds of crime, so that assets derived from crimes that affect the environment can be seized, confiscated and disposed of;

64. *Encourages* States parties to provide one another with the broadest possible cooperation, including mutual legal assistance, in preventing, investigating and prosecuting transnational organized crimes that affect the environment and related offences covered by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;

65. *Calls upon* Member States to take appropriate and effective measures to prevent and combat trafficking in timber, hazardous waste and other wastes, precious metals, stones and other minerals by organized criminal groups, including, where appropriate, the adoption and effective implementation of the necessary legislation for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of such crimes;

66. *Reaffirms* its resolution 76/185 of 16 December 2021 on preventing and combating crimes that affect the environment, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, within its mandate, and in cooperation with relevant competent intergovernmental organizations, to provide technical assistance and capacity-building to Member States, upon request, for the purposes of supporting their efforts to effectively prevent and combat crimes that affect the environment, as well as corruption and money-laundering related to such crimes;

67. *Encourages* Member States to continue to support the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in providing targeted technical assistance, within its existing mandate, to enhance the capacity of affected States, upon their request, to combat piracy and other forms of crime committed at sea, including by assisting Member States in creating an effective law enforcement response and strengthening their judicial capacity;

68. *Notes with appreciation* the past work, results and recommendations of the open-ended intergovernmental Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime, a useful forum for practitioners to exchange best practices and experiences;

69. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts in preventing and combating cybercrime and all forms of criminal misuse of information and communications technologies and to enhance international cooperation involving electronic evidence in this regard;

70. *Notes with appreciation* the progress of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes, including the holding of the Ad Hoc Committee's first, second and third negotiating sessions from 28 February to 11 March, from 30 May to 10 June and from 29 August to 9 September 2022, respectively, encourages Member States to continue to engage in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, and further encourages the participation of relevant stakeholders, in line with the road map and mode of work of the Ad Hoc Committee approved at its first session;

71. *Notes* that, where applicable and without prejudice to the positions of non-States parties, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the relevant Protocols thereto are among the legal instruments to combat the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms and their parts and ammunition;

72. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist Member States, upon request, in combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and to support them in their efforts to address the links with other forms of transnational organized crime, through, inter alia, legislative assistance, technical support, improved data collection and analysis and strengthened national statistical systems, and in this respect invites Member States to provide the Office with relevant information and, consistent with domestic law, suitably disaggregated data;

73. *Encourages* Member States to implement resolution 11/6 of 21 October 2022 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition",[929] as well as Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 65/2, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation to address the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking";

[929] See CTOC/COP/2022/9, sect. I.A.

74. *Urges* Member States to exchange good practices and experiences of practitioners who are involved in combating illicit trafficking in firearms and to consider the use of available tools, including marking and record-keeping, to facilitate the tracing of firearms and, where possible, their parts and components and ammunition, in order to enhance criminal investigations into illicit trafficking in firearms;

75. *Urges* States parties to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition that import and export parts and components of firearms to reinforce their control measures in line with the Protocol and other relevant international legal instruments to which they are party, with a view to preventing and reducing the risks of their diversion, illicit manufacturing and trafficking, and takes note of the first United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime *Global Study on Firearms Trafficking*;

76. *Notes* the results of the ninth meeting of the Working Group on Firearms, held in Vienna on 4 and 5 May 2022, and invites States parties to take measures, as appropriate and consistent with their domestic laws, to implement the recommendations resulting from the Working Group meetings, in order to contribute to strengthening international cooperation against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms;

77. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify all efforts to address the world drug problem, based upon the principle of common and shared responsibility and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, including through more effective bilateral, regional and international cooperation among judicial and law enforcement authorities, in accordance with international law, to counter the involvement of organized criminal groups in illicit drug production and trafficking and related criminal activities and to take steps to reduce the violence that accompanies drug trafficking;

78. *Recommends* that Member States, as appropriate to their national contexts, adopt a comprehensive and integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, based on baseline assessments, regular data collection and analysis, and focusing on all sectors of and linkages within the justice system, and develop crime prevention policies, strategies and programmes, including ones that focus on early prevention by using multidisciplinary and participatory approaches, in close cooperation with all stakeholders, including civil society, and requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance, upon request, to Member States for this purpose;

79. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to gradually adopt the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes and to strengthen national statistical systems of criminal justice, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue to strengthen the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of accurate, reliable, timely and comparable data and information, including, as appropriate, real time data, and data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant criteria, and strongly encourages Member States to share such data and information with the Office;

80. *Takes note* of the global studies on the smuggling of migrants, trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms and intentional homicide, including on the gender-related killing of women and girls, that have been produced by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and thus provide data-driven analyses in support of policy development at the national and international levels, and requests the Office to continue to develop, in close cooperation with Member States, technical and methodological tools and trend analyses and studies to enhance knowledge of crime trends and support Member States in designing appropriate responses in specific areas of crime, in particular in their transnational dimension and in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account the need to make the best possible use of existing resources;

81. *Encourages* Member States to take relevant measures, as appropriate to their national contexts, to ensure the diffusion, use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the consideration and, where they deem it necessary, dissemination of existing manuals, handbooks and capacity-building material, including e-learning training materials, developed and published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

82. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in collaboration and close consultation with Member States and within existing resources, to continue to support the enhancement of capacity and skills in the field of forensic sciences, including the setting of standards, and the development of technical assistance material for training, such as manuals, compilations of useful practices and guidelines and scientific and forensic reference material, for law enforcement officials and prosecution authorities, and to promote and facilitate the establishment

and sustainability of regional networks of forensic science providers in order to enhance their expertise and capacity to prevent and combat transnational organized crime;

83. *Welcomes* the Kyoto Declaration, and requests the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in accordance with its mandate, to continue to implement the appropriate policy and operational measures for the follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration, including through the holding of intersessional thematic discussions to facilitate the sharing of information, good practices and lessons learned among Member States and relevant stakeholders, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

84. *Calls upon* all Member States to actively participate in the follow-up to the Kyoto Declaration by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

85. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the mandates of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, reflecting also emerging policy issues and possible responses.

RESOLUTION 77/238

Adopted at the 54th plenary meeting, on 15 December 2022, by a recorded vote of 124 to 9, with 45 abstentions,* on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/466, para. 12)[930]

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Belarus, Cameroon, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye

Abstaining: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Central African Republic, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen

77/238. Addressing and countering the world drug problem through a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach

The General Assembly,

Underscoring that the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[931] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[932] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[933] and other relevant international instruments constitute the cornerstone of the international drug control system,

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[930] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, Timor-Leste and United States of America.

[931] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[932] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[933] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Reaffirming the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem",[934] in its entirety, and reiterating that the operational recommendations contained therein are integrated, indivisible, multidisciplinary and mutually reinforcing and are aimed at a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

Welcoming the 2019 Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem[935] adopted at the ministerial segment of the sixty-second session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which was held to take stock of the implementation of the commitments made over the past decade to jointly address and counter the world drug problem,

Reaffirming the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem[936] and the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,[937] and recalling the resolutions adopted at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly,[938]

Reaffirming also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[939] and recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[940] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[941] the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[942] and other relevant international human rights instruments,

Recalling all relevant United Nations resolutions, including all resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,

Reaffirming its resolution 76/188 of 16 December 2021 and all its preceding resolutions on international cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem,

Reaffirming also its unwavering commitment to ensuring that all aspects of demand reduction and related measures, supply reduction and related measures, and international cooperation are addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, all human rights, fundamental freedoms, the inherent dignity of all individuals and the principles of equal rights and mutual respect among States,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[943] and noting that efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to effectively address the world drug problem are complementary and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming also the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the policymaking body of the United Nations system with prime responsibility for drug control matters, as well as the treaty-mandated functions of the Commission to consider and make recommendations relating to all matters pertaining to the aims and provisions of the United Nations drug conventions, reaffirming also the support and appreciation of the General Assembly for the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime as the leading entity in the United Nations system for addressing and countering the world drug problem, reaffirming further the treaty-mandated roles of the International Narcotics Control Board and the World Health Organization, and recognizing the role and contributions of the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the United

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[934] Resolution S-30/1, annex.

[935] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 8* (E/2019/28), chap. I, sect. B.

[936] Ibid., *2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[937] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[938] Resolutions S-20/1, S-20/2, S-20/3 and S-20/4 A–E.

[939] Resolution 217 A (III).

[940] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[941] Ibid.

[942] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[943] Resolution 70/1.

Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), among other agencies, within their respective mandates,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 37/42 of 23 March 2018, entitled "Contribution to the implementation of the joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem with regard to human rights",[944] and taking note of the efforts to address arbitrary detention related to drug policies,

Recalling also Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 65/2 of 18 March 2022 on strengthening international cooperation to address the links between illicit drug trafficking and illicit firearms trafficking,[945]

Recalling further Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 65/4 of 18 March 2022 on promoting comprehensive and scientific evidence-based early prevention,[946]

Taking note of the *World Drug Report 2022*, which reflects the current trends on global drug markets,

Recognizing that the three international drug control conventions concern the health and welfare of humankind and that human rights are an indispensable part of the international legal framework for the design and implementation of drug policies, and bearing in mind efforts to address the human rights consequences of the world drug problem,

Noting with appreciation the contributions of United Nations entities, international financial institutions and relevant regional and international organizations, within their respective mandates, to the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the efforts of Member States to address and counter the world drug problem, upon their request, to strengthen international and inter-agency cooperation, and encouraging them to make available relevant information to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in order to facilitate its work and to enhance coherence within the United Nations system at all levels with regard to the world drug problem,

Recalling relevant United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules),[947] the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Non-custodial Measures (the Tokyo Rules)[948] and the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules),[949]

Recalling also the need to develop, adopt and implement, with due regard for national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems, alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and taking into account, as appropriate, relevant United Nations standards and rules, such as the Tokyo Rules,

Condemning any discriminatory or violent practice perpetrated by law enforcement officials against persons who are vulnerable or marginalized, including systemic racism in the law enforcement and criminal justice systems, underscoring the importance of ensuring that such acts are not treated with impunity, and, in this regard, taking note of the request of the Human Rights Council, through its resolution 42/22 of 26 September 2019,[950] that the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention, within its mandate, prepare a study on arbitrary detention related to drug policies, which was published on 18 May 2021,

Recognizing the importance of appropriately mainstreaming gender and age perspectives into drug-related policies and programmes, as well as the full, equal, meaningful and effective participation of women and young persons in their design and implementation,

Recognizing also the need to enhance efforts to strengthen the prevention of drug abuse among children and youth, also in educational settings, including by promoting the exchange of experiences and good practices, as well

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[944] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/73/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

[945] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2022, Supplement No. 8* (E/2022/28), chap. I, sect. B.

[946] Ibid.

[947] Resolution 65/229, annex.

[948] Resolution 45/110, annex.

[949] Resolution 70/175, annex.

[950] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/74/53/Add.1), chap. III.

as technical assistance, and recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 61/2 of 16 March 2018 on strengthening efforts to prevent drug abuse in educational settings,[951]

Expressing deep concern at the high price paid by society and by individuals and their families as a result of the world drug problem, and paying special tribute to those who have sacrificed their lives, including law enforcement and judicial personnel, and to the health-care and civil society personnel and volunteers whose work is dedicated to countering and addressing this phenomenon,

Reaffirming that Indigenous Peoples have the right to their traditional medicines and to maintain their health practices, including the conservation of their vital medicinal plants, animals and minerals, and that they also have the right to access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services and to participate in decision-making processes, in accordance with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,[952]

Welcoming continued efforts to enhance coherence within the United Nations system at all levels, and reaffirming the need to continue and strengthen cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other United Nations entities, including the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board, within their respective mandates, in their efforts to support Member States in the implementation of international drug control treaties in accordance with applicable human rights obligations and to promote protection of and respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the dignity of all individuals in the context of drug programmes, strategies and policies,

Expressing its appreciation for the results already achieved by the initiatives at the bilateral, regional and international levels, recognizing that further positive results can be achieved with sustained and collective efforts through international cooperation in reducing the demand and supply of illicit drugs, recognizing also that the world drug problem continues to present challenges to the health, including mental health, safety and well-being of all humanity, and resolving to reinforce national and international efforts and further increase international cooperation to face those challenges,

Reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in developing an effective and comprehensive approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem,

Recognizing that there are persistent, new and evolving challenges that should be addressed in conformity with the three international drug control conventions, which allow for sufficient flexibility for States parties to design and implement national drug policies according to their priorities and needs, consistent with the principle of common and shared responsibility and applicable international law,

Recognizing also that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that should be addressed in a multilateral setting through effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing, balanced, scientific evidence-based and comprehensive approach,

Reaffirming the need for close cooperation and coordination among domestic authorities at all levels to address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, education, social, human rights, economic, justice, public security and law enforcement fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility, and recognizing the value of comprehensive and balanced policy interventions, including those in the field of promotion of sustainable and viable livelihoods,

Recognizing, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to addressing and countering the world drug problem, that appropriate emphasis should be placed on individuals, families, communities and society as a whole, with a view to promoting and protecting the health, safety and well-being of all humanity,

Reaffirming equally that reducing drug abuse requires efforts to reduce demand, which must be demonstrated by sustained widespread demand reduction initiatives that are age- and gender-responsive and integrate a comprehensive public health approach spanning the spectrum of prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support and the rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions,

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[951] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 8* (E/2018/28), chap. I, sect. B.

[952] Resolution 61/295, annex.

Deeply concerned that drug traffickers are heavily arming themselves with trafficked firearms, exposing people and law enforcement personnel to significant levels of violence and harm,

Welcoming the progress made in strengthening and expanding existing cooperation on the public health-related aspects of the world drug problem, including progress related to minimizing its adverse public health and social consequences, and reaffirming the need to take into account both the public health and the criminal justice dimensions of the world drug problem, in accordance with the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, including by intensifying efforts to support Member States, upon request, in addressing and countering the world drug problem in accordance with a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach,

Mindful of the importance of encouraging the voluntary engagement and participation of individuals with drug use disorders in treatment programmes, with informed consent, where consistent with national legislation, and developing and implementing scientific evidence-based outreach programmes and campaigns, involving affected populations, including those in long-term recovery, where appropriate, to promote healthy lifestyles and reduce the adverse health and social consequences of the world drug problem, prevent social marginalization and promote non-stigmatizing attitudes, as well as of implementing effective outreach to engage and maintain the engagement of people who are in treatment, care or sustained recovery programmes and taking measures to facilitate access to such programmes and related support services, including treatment for comorbidities, and to expand capacity,

Recognizing that rapid technological change has helped address some of the challenges posed by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including through remote consultations for drug treatment services, telemedicine and greater flexibility in the provision and delivery of medication, while also recognizing the need to address the challenges posed by changes in trafficking routes and methods, including increased maritime trafficking, and online sales of drugs through both the darknet and the surface web,

Recognizing also the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on all aspects of the world drug problem, including the social impacts, such as increased unemployment, weakened social support systems, lack of access to treatment and recovery support services, and deepened inequalities, resulting in the development of new patterns of illicit drug use and the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in drugs that may have also resulted in new methods of manufacture, distribution and marketing of and trafficking in some types of drugs, including increased online sales of drugs through both the darknet and the surface web,

Noting with grave concern the increasing sophistication of the transnational criminal groups engaged in the illicit manufacture and distribution of amphetamine-type stimulants worldwide, as well as the proliferation and diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and deeply concerned that new psychoactive substances continue to be a challenge, including the increased abuse of certain drugs and the proliferation of new substances worldwide, which are a possible threat to public health and are not controlled under the three international drug control conventions,

Reaffirming that alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and an effective measure to counter the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges, and reaffirming also its commitment to addressing drug-related socioeconomic issues related to the illicit cultivation, manufacture and production of and trafficking in drugs through the implementation of long-term, comprehensive and sustainable development-oriented and balanced drug control policies and programmes, including alternative development and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, which are part of sustainable crop control strategies,

Reaffirming also the need to mobilize adequate resources to address and counter the world drug problem, and calling for the enhancement of assistance to developing countries, upon request, in effectively implementing the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and the operational recommendations of the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly,

Expressing concern that aspects of the world drug problem associated with illicit drug production and illicit cultivation of drug crops can cause serious harm to the environment, including food security, deforestation, soil erosion and degradation, the loss of endemic species, contamination of the soil, groundwater and waterways, and the release of greenhouse gases,

Recalling the commitment of Member States in the 2019 Ministerial Declaration to review in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in 2029 the progress in implementing all international drug policy commitments, with a midterm review in the Commission in 2024,

1. *Reiterates its commitment* to promoting the health, welfare and well-being of all individuals, families, communities and society as a whole and to facilitating healthy lifestyles through effective, comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand reduction initiatives at all levels, covering, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration measures, as well as initiatives and measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse;

2. *Reaffirms its commitment* to respecting, protecting and promoting all human rights, fundamental freedoms and the inherent dignity of all individuals and the rule of law in the development and implementation of drug policies;

3. *Reaffirms* the determination of Member States to tackle the world drug problem, while also recognizing the need to address the key causes and consequences of the world drug problem, including those in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice, public security and law enforcement fields, in line with the principle of common and shared responsibility, further reaffirms the determination of Member States to address public health, safety and social problems resulting from drug abuse, and recognizes the value of comprehensive and balanced policy interventions, including those in the field of the promotion of sustainable and viable livelihoods;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation with and technical assistance to the States most affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, in developing and implementing comprehensive and integrated policies, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, and by reinforcing national programmes aimed at education, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation and social reintegration;

5. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation in addressing and countering the world drug problem and to seek effectiveness and comprehensiveness in the strategies and policies undertaken by regional and subregional organizations and transregional initiatives;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in effective cooperation and practical action, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, in cooperation with the international development community and other key stakeholders, aimed at addressing and countering the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

7. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen regional, subregional and international cooperation in criminal matters, as appropriate, including judicial cooperation in the areas of, inter alia, extradition, mutual legal assistance and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and other international legal instruments and national legislation, and to strive to provide appropriate resources to national competent authorities, including through the provision of targeted technical assistance to requesting countries;

8. *Encourages* Member States to promote the prevention and treatment of drug use disorders, using scientific evidence-based practices, and takes note of the second updated edition of the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention and the International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders, developed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in collaboration with the World Health Organization, that reflect respect for human rights and dignity, including the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and well-being, including mental health and psychosocial support services, promoting non-stigmatizing attitudes in the development and implementation of scientific evidence-based policies;

9. *Recognizes* drug dependence as a complex, multifactorial health disorder characterized by a chronic and relapsing nature, with social causes and consequences, that can be prevented and treated through, inter alia, effective scientific evidence-based drug treatment, care and rehabilitation programmes, including community-based programmes, and also recognizes the need to strengthen capacity for aftercare for and the rehabilitation, recovery and social reintegration of individuals with substance use disorders, including mental health and psychosocial support services and, as appropriate, through assistance for effective reintegration into the labour market and other support services;

10. *Encourages* Member States to develop quality assurance mechanisms for drug prevention, treatment, including for comorbidities, sustained recovery and related support services that reduce the adverse health and social consequences of drug abuse with a view to ensuring continuous improvement, through, inter alia, effective supervision of drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities by competent domestic authorities, including to prevent any possible acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in accordance with national legislation and applicable international law;

11. *Also encourages* Member States to promote the inclusion in national drug policies, in accordance with national legislation and as appropriate, of elements for the prevention and treatment of drug overdose, in particular opioid overdose, including the use of opioid receptor antagonists, such as naloxone, to reduce drug-related mortality;

12. *Urges* Member States to increase the availability, coverage and quality of scientific evidence-based prevention measures and tools, especially life skills programmes with demonstrated effectiveness, that target relevant age and risk groups in multiple settings, including in educational institutions, in both the public and private sectors, reaching youth in school as well as out of school, among others, including by providing children and youth with information on drug abuse and its harmful effects and consequences as well as through drug use prevention programmes and public awareness-raising campaigns, including by using the Internet, social media and other online platforms, to develop and implement prevention curricula and early intervention programmes for use in the education system at all levels, as well as in vocational training, including in the workplace, and to enhance the capacity of teachers and other relevant professionals, as well as that of parents and guardians, to provide or recommend counselling, prevention and health-care services, and opportunities to choose healthy lifestyles, and to promote safe and drug-free environments;

13. *Invites* Member States to consider enhancing cooperation among public health, education and law enforcement authorities when developing and implementing evidence-based drug use prevention initiatives;

14. *Acknowledges* the important advances made in prevention science, establishing prevention as one of the main components of comprehensive, scientific evidence-based demand-reduction initiatives to address the non-medical use of controlled drugs, and also acknowledges that effective early prevention strategies and measures focused on addressing, inter alia, adverse childhood experiences as well as individual and environmental, including social, risk and protective, factors, contribute significantly to the positive engagement of children, youth and adults with their families and in educational settings, workplaces and communities;

15. *Reiterates* the strong commitment of Member States to improve access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by appropriately addressing existing barriers in this regard, while concurrently preventing the diversion and abuse of and trafficking in such substances, and to strengthen, as appropriate, the proper functioning of national drug control systems and domestic assessment mechanisms and programmes, with a view to promoting the health and welfare of humankind, in cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations system agencies, to identify, analyse and remove impediments to the availability and accessibility of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, within appropriate control mechanisms, as required by the three international drug control conventions and, for that purpose, to consider the provision of technical and financial assistance, upon request, to developing countries;

16. *Urges* Member States to reduce the adverse health and social consequences of the world drug problem through a comprehensive approach, including by utilizing existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime technical assistance tools, and ensuring that evidence-based treatment is available;

17. *Urges* Member States and other donors to continue to provide bilateral and other funding for the global drug problem response, including in particular the HIV/AIDS response, including to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and to strive to ensure that such funding contributes to addressing the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic among people who inject drugs, and HIV/AIDS in prison settings, in the spirit of the pledge made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind;

18. *Encourages* Member States to consider alternative, non-custodial measures for persons accused of minor, non-violent drug-related offences, to promote, consistent with the three international drug control conventions and domestic law, and in accordance with national, constitutional, legal and administrative systems, alternative or additional measures with regard to conviction or punishment in cases of an appropriate nature, and to ensure that law enforcement drug control efforts are consistent with States' human rights obligations;

19. *Calls upon* Member States to promote and implement effective criminal justice responses to drug-related crimes to bring perpetrators to justice that ensure legal guarantees and due process safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings, including practical measures to uphold the prohibition of arbitrary arrest and detention and of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to eliminate impunity, in accordance with relevant and applicable international law and taking into account United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, and ensure timely access to legal aid and the right to a fair trial;

20. *Encourages* Member States to promote proportionate national sentencing policies, practices and guidelines for drug-related offences, whereby the severity of penalties is proportionate to the gravity of offences and both mitigating and aggravating factors are taken into account, including the circumstances enumerated in article 3 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 and other relevant and applicable international law, and in accordance with national legislation;

21. *Urges* Member States to take further steps to prevent the use and diversion of synthetic drugs for non-medical purposes, including through measures and initiatives addressing the training of relevant health-care professionals and, where appropriate, education and raising public awareness and engaging with the private sector on, inter alia, issues related to marketing;

22. *Reiterates its commitment* to protect the safety and assure the security of individuals, societies and communities by intensifying efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence, through, inter alia, more effective drug-related crime prevention and law enforcement measures, as well as by addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including firearms trafficking, money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities, mindful of their social and economic causes and consequences;

23. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance national, regional, subregional, interregional and international capacity, and utilize existing and relevant regional and, as appropriate, subregional and international networks for the exchange of operational information to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and money-laundering, and, in some cases, terrorism, including money-laundering in connection with the financing of terrorism, by using an integrated and multidisciplinary approach, such as through promoting and supporting reliable data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence- and analysis-sharing to ensure effective policymaking and interventions, by using, inter alia, existing United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime technical assistance tools;

24. *Also calls upon* Member States to adopt and strengthen coordinated border management strategies, if needed, to prevent, monitor and counter the illicit production, manufacture and trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including when associated with other forms of transnational organized crime, such as trafficking in firearms, illicit financial flows, smuggling of goods and of bulk cash, and money-laundering, and also calls upon Member States to provide technical assistance, upon request, including where appropriate the provision of equipment and technology, along with necessary training and maintenance support, to increase the capacity of border and law enforcement agencies, in particular for developing countries;

25. *Recognizes* that transit States continue to face multifaceted challenges, and reaffirms the continuing need for cooperation and support, including the provision of technical assistance, to, inter alia, enhance their capacities to effectively address and counter the world drug problem, in conformity with the 1988 Convention;

26. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen specialized, targeted, effective and sustainable technical assistance, including, where appropriate, adequate financial assistance, training, capacity-building, equipment and technological know-how, to requesting countries, including transit countries, through and in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, so as to help Member States to effectively address the health, socioeconomic, human rights, justice and law enforcement aspects of the world drug problem;

27. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen national and international action to address the emerging challenge of new psychoactive substances, including their adverse health consequences, and the evolving threat of amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, underscores the importance of enhancing information-sharing and early warning networks, developing appropriate national legislative, prevention and treatment models

and supporting scientific evidence-based review and scheduling of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful substances, and notes the importance of preventing the diversion and misuse of pharmaceuticals containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and precursors, while ensuring their availability for legitimate purposes;

28. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that measures to prevent the illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances respect fundamental human rights, take due account of traditional licit uses, where there is historical evidence of such use, and of the protection of the environment, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions, and also take into account, as appropriate and in accordance with domestic law, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

29. *Also encourages* Member States to improve the assessment of the impact of demand and supply reduction strategies, including the impact of alternative development programmes and preventive alternative development programmes, as appropriate, with a view to increasing the effectiveness of such programmes, including through the use of relevant human development indicators, criteria related to environmental sustainability and other measurements in line with the Sustainable Development Goals;

30. *Further encourages* Member States to examine and address, within the efforts of alternative development, the harmful impact of the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs on the environment, which leads to illegal deforestation, the pollution of soil and water, and negative consequences on food safety, and to seize the opportunities offered by alternative development with regard to the conservation and sustainable use of the environment and the protection of biodiversity;

31. *Recognizes* the need for strengthening sustainable crop control strategies that may include, inter alia, alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures, and in this regard encourages Member States to consider development-oriented interventions to address the illicit cultivation of drug crops and other illicit drug-related activities, while ensuring that both men and women benefit equally from them, including through job opportunities, improved infrastructure and basic public services and, as appropriate, access and legal titles to land for farmers and local communities;

32. *Reiterates its commitment* to strengthen subregional, regional and international cooperation, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, to support comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programmes, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders at the local, national and international levels, and to develop and share best practices towards implementing the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,[953] taking into account all the lessons learned and good practices, in particular by countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, and in this regard recalls its resolution 72/197 of 19 December 2017, as well as Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 65/1 of 18 March 2022;[954]

33. *Urges* relevant international financial institutions, United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, as appropriate, to consider increasing their support, including through long-term and flexible funding, for the implementation of comprehensive and balanced development-oriented drug control programmes and viable economic alternatives for the promotion of inclusive economic growth and support for initiatives that contribute to poverty eradication, inter alia, alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, based on identified needs and national priorities, for areas and populations affected by or vulnerable to the illicit cultivation of drug crops, and encourages Member States to develop measures for rural development, improving infrastructure and social inclusion and protection and addressing the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on the environment, with the incorporation and participation of local communities;

34. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure the participation of local communities, including farmers, women, minorities and Indigenous Peoples, in the design and implementation of alternative development programmes and to secure alternative livelihoods, preferably before removing existing livelihoods earned from the cultivation of illicit crops;

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[953] Resolution 68/196, annex.

[954] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2022, Supplement No. 8* (E/2022/28), chap. I, sect. B.

35. *Also calls upon* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the full, equal, meaningful and effective participation of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes, including drug prevention, treatment, sustained recovery, reintegration and related support services, to develop and disseminate gender-sensitive and age-appropriate measures that take into account the specific needs and circumstances faced by women and girls with regard to the world drug problem and, as States parties, implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[955] and bearing in mind the importance of targeted interventions that are based on the collection and analysis of data, including age- and gender-related data, in meeting the specific needs of drug-affected populations and communities;

36. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to support Member States, upon request, in mainstreaming a gender perspective into their policies and programmes related to the world drug problem, and invites the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other relevant United Nations entities, within their mandates, to cooperate with the Office in this regard;

37. *Encourages* the consideration of the specific needs and possible multiple vulnerabilities of women drug offenders when imprisoned, in line with the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules);

38. *Calls upon* Member States to adapt their drug policies and to consider, when developing comprehensive policies to address and counter the world drug problem, measures, programmes and actions that respond the specific needs of members of society in situations of vulnerability;

39. *Recalls* the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Ending Inequalities and Getting on Track to End AIDS by 2030, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 June 2021;[956]

40. *Invites* relevant national authorities to consider, in accordance with their domestic law and the three international drug control conventions, including in national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and community-based social reintegration measures and programmes, in the context of comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction efforts, effective evidence-based measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, including appropriate medication-assisted therapy programmes, injecting equipment programmes as well as antiretroviral therapy and other relevant interventions that prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, and to consider ensuring access to such interventions, including in treatment and outreach services, prisons and other custodial settings, and promoting in that regard the use, as appropriate, of the technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

41. *Encourages* Member States to identify and take advantage of opportunities to conduct collaborative research and continuously share the latest scientific research, taking into account the contributions of the national, regional and international scientific community, including academia, on the most effective demand and supply reduction strategies, and to develop improved best practices on interventions to reduce demand for drugs, in accordance with the three international drug control conventions and drug policy commitments;

42. *Invites* Member States to promote and improve the systematic collection of information and gathering of evidence as well as the sharing, at the national and international levels, of reliable and comparable data on drug use and epidemiology, including scientific data on any risks or damage to health and societal consequences that are caused by abusing drugs, including in vaporized form, and on social, economic and other risk factors, as well as the links between drug policies and human rights, to promote, as appropriate, through the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Assembly, the use of internationally recognized standards, such as the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, and the exchange of best practices, and to formulate effective drug use prevention strategies and programmes in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities;

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[955] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[956] Resolution 75/284, annex.

43. *Also invites* Member States to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with information on best practices and programmes recently implemented, consistent with the three international drug control conventions, in order to assess recent developments and current and future challenges;

44. *Stresses* the need for national statistical capacity-building to support Member States in improving the quality and availability of drug statistics and to respond effectively to data-collection requests from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, invites international and regional organizations to support Member States in this regard, upon their request, invites Member States to regularly report data and information relating to all aspects of the world drug problem to the Office through the annual report questionnaires, and invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body of the United Nations system on drug-related matters, to strengthen the capacity of the Office to collect, analyse, use and disseminate accurate, reliable, objective and comparable data and to reflect such information in the *World Drug Report*;

45. *Invites* Member States to consider the need to review the set of national drug policy metrics and tools for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable, disaggregated, comprehensive and comparable data to measure the effectiveness of programmes to address all relevant aspects of the world drug problem, including, as appropriate, as related to the 2030 Agenda;

46. *Encourages* Member States to promote data collection, research and the sharing of information, as well as the exchange of best practices on preventing and countering drug-related crime and on drug supply reduction measures and practices, in order to enhance the effectiveness of criminal justice responses, within the framework of applicable law;

47. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue providing assistance to Member States, upon request, with regard to data collection, research and, as appropriate, intelligence- and analysis-sharing to disclose the extent of the links between illicit drug trafficking and firearms trafficking, and to continue its already existing research on these links, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

48. *Calls upon* Member States to intensify efforts to prevent and counter the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as well as drug-related crime and violence, through, inter alia, more effective drug-related crime prevention and law enforcement measures consistent with national legislation and international law, including applicable human rights obligations, as well as by addressing links with other forms of organized crime, including firearms trafficking, money-laundering, corruption and other criminal activities, mindful of their social and economic causes and consequences;

49. *Reaffirms* the importance of an integrated approach in drug policies, including by strengthening partnerships between the public health, development, human rights, justice and law enforcement fields, as well as the private sector, in particular chemical and pharmaceutical industries, and by facilitating inter-agency cooperation and communication, where appropriate;

50. *Recognizes* that civil society, the scientific community, academia, the private sector and affected communities can play a significant role in addressing and countering the world drug problem by analysing drugs issues, in delivering services and in evaluating the human rights impact of drug policies, and encourages, where appropriate, the participation of civil society and affected communities in the design, implementation and provision of relevant scientific evidence in support of the evaluation of drug control policies and programmes;

51. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its field offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, encourages the Office to maintain an effective level of support for national and regional efforts, requests all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the Office by widening its donor base, as appropriate, and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities, and requests the Office to continue to collaborate with relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations involved in addressing and countering the world drug problem, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and scientific standards and to maximize the benefits from their unique comparative advantage;

52. *Takes note* of the statements by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board of 21 and 22 September 2022;

53. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue to strengthen cooperation with the World Health Organization and other competent United Nations entities, within their respective mandates, as part of a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to strengthening health and social welfare measures in addressing the world drug problem, including through effective prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation and social reintegration, in cooperation, as appropriate, with civil society and the scientific community, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs appropriately updated;

54. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with Member States and pertinent United Nations entities, intergovernmental and regional organizations and the scientific community and civil society, to continue to support Member States, upon request, in strengthening their capacity to develop their reporting mechanisms, including through technical assistance, by identifying gaps in the current drug statistics and by exploring possibilities to strengthen existing data-collection and analysis tools at the national level; and to provide technical assistance to Governments so as to facilitate the implementation of and enable them to fully meet their obligations under the conventions and give adequate follow-up to subsequent resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

55. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations entities, in close cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to support Member States in developing and implementing balanced, comprehensive, integrated, multidisciplinary, evidence-based, development-oriented and sustainable responses to the world drug problem, while respecting human rights, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions;

56. *Welcomes* the follow-up to the implementation of all commitments to address and counter the world drug problem made since 2009, including the recommendations set out in the outcome document of the thirtieth special session of the General Assembly, through the intersessional process of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, encourages the Commission to continue to work on and support Member States in their implementation and sharing of scientific and evidence-based best practices in addressing and countering the world drug problem, and invites the Commission to continue to examine how its subsidiary bodies can better contribute to the implementation of, inter alia, the outcome document and all relevant commitments by ensuring that the Commission is informed of regional and domestic concerns, developments and best practices arising from all stakeholders, including contributions from the scientific community, academia and civil society;

57. *Calls upon* all Member States to actively participate in the discussions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs concerning the preparations for the 2024 midterm review of the progress in implementing all international drug policy commitments, which should include inputs by the General Assembly concerning the follow-up to the 2019 Ministerial Declaration on Strengthening Our Actions at the National, Regional and International Levels to Accelerate the Implementation of Our Joint Commitments to Address and Counter the World Drug Problem;

58. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[957] and requests that he submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including a focus on international cooperation to address and counter the world drug problem.

[957] A/77/137.

VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee*

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* Unless otherwise stated, the draft resolutions recommended in the reports were submitted by the Chair or another officer of the Bureau of the Committee.

RESOLUTION 77/2

Adopted at the 15th plenary meeting, on 7 October 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/484, para. 7)

77/2. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: requests under Article 19 of the Charter

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter V of the report of the Committee on Contributions on its eighty-second session,[1]

Reaffirming the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 54/237 C of 23 December 1999;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to bring to the attention of Member States the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C, including through an early announcement in the *Journal of the United Nations* and through direct communication;

4. *Urges* all Member States requesting exemption under Article 19 of the Charter to submit as much information as possible in support of their requests and to consider submitting such information in advance of the deadline specified in resolution 54/237 C so as to enable the collation of any additional detailed information that may be necessary;

5. *Agrees* that the failure of the Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia to pay the full minimum amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter was due to conditions beyond their control;

6. *Decides* that the Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe and Somalia shall be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until the end of its seventy-seventh session.

RESOLUTION 77/3

Adopted at the 21st plenary meeting, on 27 October 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/535, para. 6)

77/3. Revised estimates on United Nations activities to mitigate global food insecurity and its humanitarian impact

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Approves* additional resource requirements in the amount of 3,524,600 United States dollars under the programme budget for 2022, under section 12, Trade and development (848,600 dollars), section 27, Humanitarian

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/77/11).

[2] A/77/325.

[3] A/77/486.

assistance (2,481,700 dollars), and section 36, Staff assessment (194,300 dollars), to be offset by an equivalent increase of 194,300 dollars under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

4. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding 3,524,600 dollars;

5. *Notes* that the use of the commitment authority of 3,524,600 dollars for 2022 will be reported in the financial performance report for 2022.

RESOLUTION 77/4

Adopted at the 23rd plenary meeting, on 31 October 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/535/Add.1, para. 6)

77/4. Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for 2022 under section 3, Political affairs, and section 36, Staff assessment: special political missions – United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/245, section X of its resolution 76/246 and its resolutions 76/247 A to C, of 24 December 2021, and section II of its resolution 76/246 B of 13 April 2022,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[4] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[5]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Appropriates*, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, an additional amount of 131,345,400 United States dollars under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for 2022 for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan;

4. *Also appropriates* the related staff assessment portion in the amount of 10,905,200 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for 2022.

RESOLUTION 77/253

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/658, para. 6)

77/253. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/212 B of 31 March 1998 and its decision 57/573 of 20 December 2002,

Recalling also its resolutions 76/235 A of 24 December 2021 and 76/235 B of 29 June 2022,

Having considered, for the period ended 31 December 2021, the financial reports and audited financial statements and the reports of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations,[6] the International Trade Centre,[7] the United

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[4] A/76/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.9.

[5] A/76/7/Add.41.

[6] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5*, vol. I (A/77/5 (Vol. I)).

[7] Ibid., vol. III (A/77/5 (Vol. III)).

Nations University,[8] the United Nations Development Programme,[9] the United Nations Capital Development Fund,[10] the United Nations Children's Fund,[11] the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[12] the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[13] the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[14] the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme,[15] the United Nations Population Fund,[16] the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,[17] the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,[18] the United Nations Office for Project Services,[19] the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women),[20] the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals[21] and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[22] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the concise summary of the principal findings and conclusions contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors for the annual financial period 2021,[23] the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports on the United Nations[24] and on the United Nations funds and programmes[25] for the year ended 31 December 2021, the report of the Chief Executive of Pension Administration and the Representative of the Secretary-General for the investment of the assets of the Fund on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report for the year ended 31 December 2021 on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund[26] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[27]

Having also considered the note by the Secretary-General drawing attention to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Review of the management of implementing partners in the United Nations system organizations"[28] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[29]

1. *Takes note* of the audit opinions and findings, and endorses the recommendations, contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Reaffirms* that the Board of Auditors shall be completely independent and solely responsible for the conduct of audits;

4. *Decides* to consider further the report of the Board of Auditors on the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals under the agenda item relating to the Mechanism;

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[8] Ibid., vol. IV (A/77/5 (Vol. IV)).
[9] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5A* (A/77/5/Add.1).
[10] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5B* (A/77/5/Add.2).
[11] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5C* (A/77/5/Add.3).
[12] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5D* (A/77/5/Add.4).
[13] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5E* (A/77/5/Add.5).
[14] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5F* (A/77/5/Add.6).
[15] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5G* (A/77/5/Add.7).
[16] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5H* (A/77/5/Add.8).
[17] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5I* (A/77/5/Add.9).
[18] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5J* (A/77/5/Add.10).
[19] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5K* (A/77/5/Add.11).
[20] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5L* (A/77/5/Add.12).
[21] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5O* (A/77/5/Add.15).
[22] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5P* (A/77/5/Add.16).
[23] A/77/240.
[24] A/77/322.
[25] A/77/322/Add.1.
[26] A/77/286.
[27] A/77/574.
[28] A/77/317.
[29] A/77/317/Add.1.

5. *Also decides* to consider further the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund under the agenda item relating to the Pension Fund;

6. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the continued high quality of its reports and the streamlined format thereof;

7. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its reports for the year ended 31 December 2021 on the United Nations and on the United Nations funds and programmes;

8. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to ensure full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the related recommendations of the Advisory Committee in a prompt and timely manner, to continue to hold programme managers accountable for the non-implementation of recommendations and to effectively address the root causes of the problems highlighted by the Board;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide in his reports on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors a full explanation for the delays in the implementation of the recommendations of the Board, in particular those recommendations not yet fully implemented that are two or more years old;

10. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to indicate in future reports an expected time frame for the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, as well as the priorities for their implementation and the office holders to be held accountable.

RESOLUTION 77/254

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/655, para. 17)

77/254. Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 57/282 of 20 December 2002, 58/268 and 58/269 of 23 December 2003, 59/275 of 23 December 2004, 60/257 of 8 May 2006, 61/235 of 22 December 2006, 62/224 of 22 December 2007, 63/247 of 24 December 2008, 64/229 of 22 December 2009, 65/244 of 24 December 2010, 66/8 of 11 November 2011, 67/236 of 24 December 2012, 68/20 of 4 December 2013, 69/17 of 18 November 2014, 70/8 of 13 November 2015, 71/6 of 27 October 2016, 72/9 of 17 November 2017, 72/266 A of 24 December 2017, 72/266 B of 5 July 2018, section III of its resolution 72/262 C of 5 July 2018 and its resolutions 73/269 of 22 December 2018, 74/251 of 27 December 2019, 75/243 of 31 December 2020 and 76/236 of 24 December 2021,

Recalling also the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976,

Recalling further the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[30] by which the relevant programmes and subprogrammes of the proposed strategic framework shall be reviewed by the relevant sectoral, functional and regional intergovernmental bodies, if possible during the regular cycle of their meetings,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its sixty-second session,[31] the reports of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for 2023: part I, plan outline,[32] and

[30] ST/SGB/2018/3.

[31] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/77/16).

[32] A/77/6 (Plan outline).

part II, proposed programme plan for 2023 and programme performance for 2021,[33] and the letters and the annexes thereto from the Chairs of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee) dated 28 October 2022[34] and the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (Third Committee) dated 26 October 2022[35] addressed to the Chair of the Fifth Committee,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in verifying that the programmes of activities of the Organization are implemented in line with the legislative mandates and that the full implementation of regulations and rules is ensured;

3. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

4. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;

5. *Reiterates* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;

6. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and also reaffirms the role of the Fifth Committee in carrying out a thorough analysis and approving human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

7. *Notes* the increased size and volume of documentation that forms the proposed programme budget, and notes with appreciation that the Secretary-General continues his efforts to enhance the quality, clarity and usability of the proposed programme budget in consultation with Member States, while maintaining the level of information provided to Member States;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 15 of its resolution 74/251 and paragraph 14 of its resolution 76/236, and reiterates its guidance to the Secretary-General to ensure that the terms and expressions referenced in the proposed programme plan have been intergovernmentally agreed;

9. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and welcomes its report;

10. *Recalls* paragraph 7 of its resolution 76/236, commends the progress made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its sixty-second session and increased engagement by all relevant stakeholders, notes with appreciation that the number of programmes without conclusions and recommendations from the Committee for Programme and Coordination has reduced this year, and notes the letters provided by the Chairs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly;

11. *Reiterates* that whenever the Committee for Programme and Coordination cannot provide conclusions and recommendations on a given subprogramme or programme of the proposed programme budget, the plenary or the relevant Main Committee or Main Committees of the General Assembly responsible for those mandates will consider the said subprogramme or programme at the very start of its session in order to provide any conclusions and

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[33] A/77/6 (Sect. 2), A/77/6 (Sect. 3), A/77/6 (Sect. 4), A/77/6 (Sect. 5), A/77/6 (Sect. 6), A/77/6 (Sect. 8), A/77/6 (Sect. 8)/Corr.1, A/77/6 (Sect. 9), A/77/6 (Sect. 10), A/77/6 (Sect. 11), A/77/6 (Sect. 12), A/77/6 (Sect. 13), A/77/6 (Sect. 14), A/77/6 (Sect. 14)/Corr.1, A/77/6 (Sect. 15), A/77/6 (Sect. 16), A/77/6 (Sect. 17), A/77/6 (Sect. 18), A/77/6 (Sect. 19), A/77/6 (Sect. 20), A/77/6 (Sect. 21), A/77/6 (Sect. 22), A/77/6 (Sect. 24), A/77/6 (Sect. 24)/Corr.1, A/77/6 (Sect. 25), A/77/6 (Sect. 26), A/77/6 (Sect. 27), A/77/6 (Sect. 28), A/77/6 (Sect. 29), A/77/6 (Sect. 29A), A/77/6 (Sect. 29B), A/77/6 (Sect. 29C), A/77/6 (Sect. 29E), A/77/6 (Sect. 29F), A/77/6 (Sect. 29G), A/77/6 (Sect. 30), A/77/6 (Sect. 31) and A/77/6 (Sect. 34).

[34] A/C.5/77/12.

[35] A/C.5/77/11.

recommendations to the Fifth Committee, at the earliest opportunity, and no later than four weeks after the start of the session, for timely consideration by the Fifth Committee;

12. *Recognizes* the efforts of the President of the General Assembly and the Chair of the Fifth Committee in following up with the Chairs of the relevant Main Committees on the consideration of the programmes without recommendations from the Committee for Programme and Coordination, in accordance with paragraph 16 of its resolution 76/236, and decides that incoming Presidents of the General Assembly and Chairs of the Fifth Committee shall reach out to and support the Chairs of the Main Committees to ensure that conclusions and recommendations are issued on time;

13. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the proposed programme plan for 2023 and programme performance for 2021[36] and on evaluation,[37] contained in its report on the work of its sixty-second session, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the timely implementation of the recommendations;

14. *Approves*, on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent, for programmes 3 and 20 of the proposed programme budget for 2023, a programme narrative that is composed solely of the list of mandates at the programme level and the objectives approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/6 and the deliverables for 2023 at the subprogramme level;

15. *Also approves*, on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent, for programmes 13 and 21 of the proposed programme budget for 2023, a programme narrative that is composed solely of the list of mandates at the programme level and the objectives approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 76/236 and the deliverables for 2023 at the subprogramme level;

16. *Further approves* the programme plan for programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2023, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General;[38]

17. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2021,[39] on United Nations system support for Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want[40] and on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit.[41]

RESOLUTION 77/255

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/659, para. 6)

77/255. Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the pattern of conferences, including resolution 76/237 of 24 December 2021,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on multilingualism, in particular resolution 76/268 of 10 June 2022, reaffirming the provisions relating to conference services, and recognizing that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, contributes to the achievement of the goals of the United Nations, as set out in Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations,

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[36] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/77/16), chap. II, sect. A.

[37] Ibid., sect. B.

[38] A/77/6 (Sect. 8) and A/77/6 (Sect. 8)/Corr.1.

[39] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/77/16), chap. III, sect. A.

[40] Ibid., sect. B.

[41] Ibid., chap. IV.

Reaffirming its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2022[42] and the relevant report of the Secretary-General,[43]

Having also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[44]

Reaffirming the role of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly in administrative and budgetary matters,

Recalling its resolution 14 (I) of 13 February 1946 and the role of the Advisory Committee as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Committee on Conferences for 2022;

I
Calendar of conferences and meetings

2. *Approves* the draft calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2023, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[45] taking into account the observations of the Committee and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2023 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session;

4. *Recalls* paragraph 40 of its resolution 71/323 of 8 September 2017, paragraph 40 of its resolution 72/313 of 17 September 2018, paragraph 15 of its resolution 73/341 of 12 September 2019 and paragraph 19 of its resolution 75/325 of 10 September 2021 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly;

5. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions on the pattern of conferences, including resolutions 53/208 A of 18 December 1998, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 57/283 B of 15 April 2003, 58/250 of 23 December 2003, 59/265 of 23 December 2004, 60/236 A of 23 December 2005, 61/236 of 22 December 2006, 62/225 of 22 December 2007, 63/248 of 24 December 2008, 64/230 of 22 December 2009, 65/245 of 24 December 2010, 66/233 of 24 December 2011, 67/237 of 24 December 2012, 68/251 of 27 December 2013, 72/19 of 1 December 2017, 73/270 of 22 December 2018, 74/252 of 27 December 2019, 75/244 of 31 December 2020 and 76/237, concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;

6. *Also notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in relevant resolutions of the General Assembly regarding the pattern of conferences, including resolution 69/250 of 29 December 2014, concerning Yom Kippur, the Day of Vesak, Diwali, Gurpurab, Orthodox Christmas and Nowruz, and requests all relevant intergovernmental bodies to continue to observe the applicable decisions when planning their meetings;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of the intergovernmental bodies recommendations on the dates when the bodies are requested to avoid holding meetings, in written form, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that any modification to the calendar of conferences and meetings is implemented strictly in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Conferences and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

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[42] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/77/32).

[43] A/77/91.

[44] A/77/544.

[45] *See Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/77/32), annex II.

9. *Invites* Member States to include in new legislative mandates adequate information on the modalities for the organization of conferences or meetings;

10. *Recalls* rule 153 of its rules of procedure, and, for resolutions involving expenditure, requests the Secretary-General to include the modalities of conferences, taking into account the trends of similar meetings, with a view to mobilizing conference and documentation services in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible;

11. *Reaffirms* the need to address the issue of duplications and redundancies in conference servicing, and notes Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/30 of 24 July 2018;

12. *Expresses concern* regarding the recurring extension of the work of the Fifth Committee during the second part of the resumed session of the General Assembly and the impact of such an extension on the services provided by the Secretariat, including the availability of conference rooms and language services;

II
Utilization of conference-servicing resources

13. *Reaffirms* the practice that, in the use of conference rooms, priority must be given to meetings of Member States;

14. *Commends* the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat for ensuring continuity of the conference services during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic;

15. *Notes with concern* the residual impact of the measures in response to the liquidity situation and COVID-19 on the provision of language services and the management of meetings, including the recruitment of new staff to fill vacant posts in the six official language services, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to make efforts to ensure that multilingualism, as a fundamental value of the Organization, is not undermined;

16. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and Member States to adhere to the guidelines and procedures contained in the administrative instruction for the authorization of the use of United Nations premises for meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits;[46]

17. *Emphasizes* that such meetings, conferences, special events and exhibits must be consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations;

18. *Notes* that the overall interpretation utilization factor for all calendar bodies at the four main duty stations has met the established benchmark of 80 per cent since 2014 and was 84 per cent in 2021;

19. *Urges* those intergovernmental bodies whose average interpretation utilization factor has for the past six years been below the benchmark of 80 per cent to take that factor into account when planning their future sessions in order to achieve that benchmark;

20. *Reiterates its request* to intergovernmental bodies to review their meeting entitlements and to plan and adjust their programmes of work on the basis of their actual utilization of conference-servicing resources in order to improve their efficient use and to achieve optimum utilization of conference services;

21. *Urges* the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources to work more closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and to consider changes to their programmes of work, as appropriate, including adjustments based on previous patterns of recurring agenda items, with a view to making improvements in their interpretation utilization factors;

22. *Recognizes* that late starts and unplanned early endings seriously affect the interpretation utilization factor of those bodies, invites the secretariats and bureaux of the bodies to pay adequate attention in this regard, and welcomes their efforts to inform the Secretariat in a timely manner of any such changes in order to allow conference services to be smoothly redeployed to other meetings;

[46] ST/AI/2019/4.

23. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to consult those bodies that have consistently utilized less than the applicable benchmark of their allocated resources for the past six years, with a view to making appropriate recommendations in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources;

24. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General to increase the utilization of conference-servicing resources, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to enhance the efficiency of conference servicing and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult Member States on initiatives that affect the utilization of conference services and conference facilities;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to impress upon bodies entitled to meet "as required" the need to further improve the utilization of conference services, and further requests the Secretary-General to report on the provision of such services to those bodies to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

27. *Recognizes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met, and requests the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to inform the requesters as early as possible about the availability of conference services, including interpretation, as well as about any changes that might occur before the holding of meetings;

28. *Notes* the overall increase in the percentage of meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States that were provided with interpretation services at the four main duty stations in 2021, and requests the Secretary-General to further employ innovative means to address the difficulties arising from the lack of interpretation services for such meetings and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

29. *Once again urges* intergovernmental bodies at the planning stage to take into account the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

30. *Looks forward* to receiving the comprehensive proposal aimed at addressing the deteriorating conditions and the limited capacity of the conference services facility at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

31. *Recognizes* the proactive efforts of the Secretary-General to identify ways to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in conference services, commends the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management for its innovative approaches in providing technical secretariat support and in managing meetings and documents, and encourages the Department to continue its efforts to preserve the high quality of its services while achieving efficiencies;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts aimed at improving conference servicing at the four main duty stations, including by addressing or eliminating possible duplication, overlap and redundancy, and identifying innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-saving measures, without compromising quality or affecting the provision of services, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

33. *Reiterates* the need to continue to improve all conference facilities, including the videoconferencing infrastructure, at all four main duty stations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to report thereon no later than at the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly;

34. *Welcomes* the measures taken to ensure access to and use of conference services and conference facilities for persons with disabilities, including the establishment of the Accessibility Centre and the use of sign language services, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to address issues related to the accessibility of conference facilities in all four main conference-servicing duty stations as a matter of priority and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

35. *Also welcomes* the integrated global management rule as an efficient approach, where feasible, to servicing meetings away from duty stations, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to realize further efficiencies by rigorously applying the integrated global management rule to applicable meetings, without jeopardizing the quality of services, and to continue to report thereon to the Committee on Conferences;

III
Enhancing integrated global management, leveraging technology and measuring the quality of conference services

36. *Recalls* paragraph 24 of the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences,[47] also recalls that, in paragraph 81 of its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001, it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that conference services were managed in an integrated manner throughout all duty stations in the Organization, and stresses again that the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management is responsible for the implementation of policy, the formulation of standards and guidelines, overseeing and coordinating United Nations conference services and the overall management of resources under the relevant budget section, while the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi remain responsible and accountable for day-to-day operational activities, as indicated in section II.B, paragraph 7, of its resolution 57/283 B;

37. *Welcomes* the innovative efforts of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to improve conference services with a view to facilitating the decision-making process by intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to explore technological and other innovations that advance effectiveness and efficiency in this regard and to report on these efforts during the seventy-eighth session;

38. *Notes* the initiatives undertaken in the context of the integrated global management concept aimed at streamlining procedures, achieving economies of scale and improving the quality of conference services, and in this regard stresses the importance of ensuring the equal treatment of conference-servicing staff, as well as the principle of equal grade for equal work at the four main duty stations;

39. *Acknowledges* that the concept of integrated global management has been fully mainstreamed into all areas of conference services across the four main conference-servicing duty stations, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly and the Committee on Conferences apprised of progress made in ensuring integrated global management and to provide accurate and up-to-date information on new initiatives falling under the purview of the Committee;

40. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made in the development and implementation of conference management software such as gData, gDoc, gMeets and gText, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that they are implemented as enterprise systems in the context of the Secretariat-wide information and communications technology strategy, as welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/262 of 29 December 2014, and to report on progress made regarding operations, maintenance and harmonization with existing systems, as appropriate;

41. *Underlines* that all the initiatives on leveraging technology, including those introduced on a trial basis, shall comply with the principle of parity among the official languages of the Organization, with a view to preserving and enhancing the quality and scope of the services provided by the Secretariat;

42. *Reiterates* that the satisfaction of Member States is a key performance indicator in conference management and conference services;

43. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that measures taken by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, as a key performance indicator of the Department, provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluations in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly, through the Committee on Conferences, on progress made in this regard;

44. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore best practices and techniques in client satisfaction evaluations, to seek a larger rate of response to surveys on quality and to report regularly to the General Assembly on the results achieved;

45. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, taking into consideration comments and complaints raised by Member States either in writing or during meetings, and requests

[47] A/70/122.

the Secretary-General to intensify his exploration of innovative ways to systematically capture and analyse feedback from Member States and Chairs and Secretaries of committees on the quality of conference services and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek evaluation of the quality of the conference services provided by the Secretariat through meetings held at least once a year, but not exceeding twice a year, guaranteeing that Member States are able to present their evaluations and seek information equally in any of the six official languages of the United Nations on any conference-related or language-specific matter;

IV
Matters related to documentation and publications

47. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

48. *Underlines* that all the initiatives on the evolution of working methods, including those introduced on a trial basis, shall comply with the principle of parity among the official languages of the Organization, with a view to preserving or enhancing the quality and scope of the services provided by the Secretariat;

49. *Emphasizes* the importance of multilingualism in the activities of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure full parity among the six official languages in accordance with General Assembly resolution 76/268 and to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

50. *Also emphasizes* the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations, ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, and in this regard reaffirms its request that the Secretary-General ensure the archiving of official meetings webcasts in all six official languages on the United Nations website;

51. *Notes* that the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages in the archiving of official meetings webcasts remains, and requests the Secretary-General to increase his efforts to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages in this regard;

52. *Recalls with appreciation* the appointment by the Secretary-General of the Coordinator for Multilingualism, who is responsible for the overall implementation of multilingualism Secretariat-wide, and calls upon all departments and offices within the Secretariat to fully support the work of the Coordinator in the implementation of the relevant mandates on multilingualism;

53. *Emphasizes* that multilingualism, as a core value of the Organization, entails the active involvement and commitment of all stakeholders, including all United Nations duty stations and offices away from Headquarters;

54. *Recalls* the submission by the Secretary-General, in his report on multilingualism,[48] of detailed terms of reference for the Coordinator for Multilingualism, as requested in resolution 70/9 of 13 November 2015, also recalls its endorsement, in resolution 71/328 of 11 September 2017, of the terms of reference proposed by the Secretary-General, requests that subsequent updates to the terms of reference be made available to all Member States and Secretariat entities, and welcomes the efforts made by the Coordinator in this regard;

55. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the consistent and effective implementation of the terms of reference for the Coordinator for Multilingualism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

56. *Emphasizes* the role of Member States and their intergovernmental bodies in determining the policies on conference management;

57. *Stresses* that proposals to change such policies are to be approved by Member States in their relevant intergovernmental bodies;

58. *Also stresses* that matters related to conference management, including documentation, fall within the purview of the Fifth Committee;

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[48] A/71/757.

59. *Reiterates* the importance of the timely submission and issuance of documents for all intergovernmental bodies, including the Fifth Committee;

60. *Notes with concern* the recurring late issuance of documents for the Fifth Committee, recalls paragraph 29 of its resolution 70/247 of 23 December 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to take actions for its effective implementation, taking into account the responsibilities of all stakeholders involved, and to report thereon in the context of his next report on the pattern of conferences;

61. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Secretariat, in particular the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, regarding the timely issuance of pre-session documentation for the Fifth Committee in the six official languages of the United Nations, and encourages continued efforts by all stakeholders in this regard;

62. *Encourages* the Chairs of the Fifth Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to continue to promote cooperation between the two bodies in the sphere of documentation;

63. *Notes* that accurate, timely and consistent information provided by the Secretariat to the Fifth Committee during its informal consultations facilitates the decision-making process in the Committee;

64. *Reaffirms* its decision, in section IV of its resolution 64/230, that all reports adopted by the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council shall be issued as documents in all official languages of the United Nations in a timely manner before their consideration by the Council, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 36/117 A of 10 December 1981, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998 and 59/265, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the support necessary to that effect and to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

65. *Reiterates* paragraph 8 of the annex to its resolution 2 (I) of 1 February 1946 on the rules of procedure concerning languages, whereby all resolutions and other important documents shall be made available in all six official languages and, upon the request of any representative, any other document shall be made available in any or all of the official languages;

66. *Also reiterates* the importance of the simultaneous issuance of documents in all official languages and welcomes the 100 per cent compliance in 2021 with the issuance of documents by three duty stations, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General ensure strict respect for the rules concerning the simultaneous issuance of documents in all six official languages as regards both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the United Nations website;

67. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action on providing the timely and simultaneous issuance of documents in all six official languages;

68. *Notes* that workload-sharing has expanded to include proofreading in addition to translation, editing and text-processing, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to seek ways to promote workload-sharing among the four main duty stations and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

69. *Emphasizes* that the major goals of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management are to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages, in accordance with established regulations, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all headquarters duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

70. *Also emphasizes* the importance of enhancing accountability within the Secretariat for the timely submission and issuance of documents;

71. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include in the senior managers' compacts the new standard managerial indicator related to the timely submission of official documentation for intergovernmental and expert bodies and to report thereon in future progress reports on accountability;

72. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include, in future budget proposals, information related to the timely submission of documentation needed for meetings of relevant intergovernmental and expert bodies;

73. *Reaffirms* its decision in section III, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/265 that the issuance of documents in all six official languages on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority;

74. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General direct all departments of the Secretariat to include the following elements in their reports:

(a) A summary of the report;

(b) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(c) Relevant background information;

and its request that all documents submitted to legislative organs, including the Committee on Conferences, by the Secretariat and intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

75. *Notes with concern* that only 80 per cent of the author departments reached the compliance rate of 90 per cent in the timely submission of their reports to the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to enforce the slotting system more rigorously through a dedicated focus, such as the interdepartmental task force on documentation, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session, urges author departments to fully adhere to deadlines for document submission, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on concrete measures taken;

76. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the interdepartmental task force on documentation, chaired by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, to facilitate the submission of documents by author departments of the Secretariat;

77. *Reiterates its request* in paragraph 78 of its resolution 76/237 that the Secretary-General provide information on the waiver process for documents that are submitted over the word limit;

78. *Notes* that the Official Document System is the official digital repository of the United Nations, welcomes its modernization and its accessibility in all six official languages of the United Nations, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

79. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to upload all important older United Nations documents on to the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis so that those archives will also be available to Member States and the general public;

80. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all measures necessary to ensure that the digitization of key documents in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and in the main duty stations is completed in a timely manner, as appropriate;

81. *Expresses concern* that the anticipated lengthy digitization project may jeopardize the retention of historical knowledge and information in view of the delicate state and risk of breakage of many of the related documents;

82. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek additional voluntary contributions for the digitization of important older United Nations documents, including by broadening the donor base, and to report thereon;

83. *Welcomes with appreciation* the additional contribution from the Government of Qatar to support the digitization project;

84. *Recalls* paragraph 86 of its resolution 76/237, notes the increased use of digital recordings by other intergovernmental bodies, including the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly in this regard;

85. *Stresses* that verbatim and summary records remain the only official records of the meetings of United Nations bodies and that the timely issuance of verbatim records constitutes an important part of the services provided to Member States;

86. *Reiterates* paragraph 88 of its resolution 76/237 related to the transition to digital recordings of meetings in the six official languages of the Organization as a cost-saving measure;

V
Matters related to language services

87. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all six official languages;

88. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to continue to improve the quality of the simultaneous interpretation and translation services provided, and requests the Secretary-General to take action in this regard;

89. *Recalls* paragraph 58 of its resolution 74/262 of 27 December 2019, on allocating a maximum of four official working languages for the work of the human rights treaty bodies, with the inclusion, on an exceptional basis, of a fifth official language, when necessary to facilitate communication among the members, as determined by the committee concerned, taking into account that these measures will not constitute a precedent, given the special nature of the treaty bodies, and without prejudice to the right of each State party to interact with the treaty bodies in any of the six official languages of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

90. *Underlines* that the translation of official documents of the Organization must be provided in all required languages and in due time, in full compliance with the rules of procedure of the respective legislative bodies;

91. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the quality of translation of documents into the six official languages, giving particular significance to the accuracy of translation;

92. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the terminology used in the translation and interpretation services reflects the latest linguistic norms and terminology of the official languages in order to ensure the highest quality;

93. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to maintain and update the global terminology portal in order to ensure its availability to United Nations staff, Member States and the general public, with a view to achieving harmonization of the terminology used at all United Nations duty stations;

94. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as the Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to continue to invite the heads of participating funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to consider using official United Nations terminology and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

95. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to develop recruitment, subcontracting and outreach policies in relation to the pool of language professionals and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

96. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving the maximum quality of services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

97. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take measures to ensure equal treatment of all six official languages and equal quality of service for Member States, while fully respecting the specificities of each official language and different levels of benefit from information technology advances for different languages, including by addressing workload inequities arising from staffing structures and specificities of language, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

98. *Reiterates* the need for the Secretary-General to ensure the compatibility of technologies used in all duty stations and to ensure that they are user-friendly in all official languages;

99. *Welcomes* the development of the computer-assisted translation and machine translation system (eLUNa), and requests the Secretary-General to report on updates, including cost-benefit analysis and quality preservation and control, to this system to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

100. *Recalls* section VII of its resolution 69/274 A of 2 April 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of flexible workplace strategies and other potential changes in logistical arrangements take into account the needs of language staff in order to continue to ensure that the services provided to Member States meet the highest standard of quality;

101. *Reaffirms* paragraph 103 of its resolution 76/237, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General, when recruiting temporary assistance in the language services, including through the use of international or local contracts, as appropriate, ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of their services, with full respect for the specificities of each of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

102. *Recalls* section IV of its resolution 69/274 A, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the working conditions of interpreters under review;

103. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts aimed at filling vacancies in the language services, in particular in the translation services and interpretation services, in a timely manner and in full compliance with relevant provisions of the General Assembly resolutions governing recruitment for language staff, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

104. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to hold competitive examinations for the recruitment of language staff sufficiently in advance in order to fill current and future vacancies in the language services in a timely manner and to inform the General Assembly at its future sessions of efforts in this regard;

105. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to enhance access to competitive examinations for applicants in all regions, including by organizing remote examinations and by bringing, to the extent possible, examination sites closer to their locations in order to allow the greatest number of potentially qualified candidates to participate in them, and to report to the General Assembly at its future sessions on progress made in this regard;

106. *Stresses* the need to fully ensure the highest possible quality of contractual and in-house translation, and freelance and in-house interpretation, and requests the Secretary-General to report on measures taken in this regard;

107. *Reiterates its request* that the Secretary-General provide, at all duty stations, adequate staff at the appropriate level, with a view to ensuring appropriate quality control for external translation and freelance interpretation;

108. *Requests* the Secretary-General to apply common standards for the quality control of documents processed by external translators in all four duty stations in order to ensure high-quality translations in the six official languages of the United Nations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its future sessions;

109. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the experience, lessons learned and best practices of the main duty stations in performing quality control of contractual and in-house translations, including on requirements relating to the number and appropriate level of staff needed to carry out this function, are shared among duty stations and regional commissions, as appropriate;

110. *Notes* that the Secretary-General has established globally standardized performance indicators and costing models aimed at a more cost-effective strategy for the in-house processing of documents, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their effective application at the four main duty stations;

111. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to apply similar quality-control measures for interpretation services, in particular services provided by freelance interpreters;

112. *Notes with appreciation* the measures taken by the Secretary-General, in accordance with its resolutions, to address the issue of the replacement of retiring staff in the language services, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain and intensify those efforts, including the strengthening of cooperation with institutions that train language specialists, in order to meet the needs in the six official languages of the United Nations;

113. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the internship programme, including through partnerships with organizations that promote the official languages of the United Nations;

114. *Welcomes* the existing memorandums of understanding between the Organization and 22 universities as a way to strengthen the training of language professionals in order to improve the recruitment of qualified language staff, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to assess the appropriate number of memorandums of understanding in order to fulfil the needs of the Organization;

115. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make further concerted efforts to promote outreach programmes, such as traineeships and internships, and to introduce innovative methods to increase awareness of the programmes, including through partnerships with Member States, relevant international organizations and language institutions in all regions, in particular to close the wide gap of qualified candidates from Africa and from the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

116. *Notes with appreciation* the positive experience with language traineeships in training young professionals and in attracting them to the United Nations, while enhancing the pool of qualified language professionals in language combinations that are critical for succession-planning purposes, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

117. *Notes* that the "African project" has the aim of establishing postgraduate university programmes in translation, conference interpreting and public service interpreting through centres of excellence on the African continent, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on the achievements of this project;

118. *Also notes* the difficulties encountered in identifying and retaining qualified language professionals and the need to replenish the pool of language experts at the main duty stations, particularly New York and Nairobi, in order to prevent further negative impact on the capacity of the Secretariat to provide services in the six official languages of the United Nations;

119. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Secretary-General to raise awareness among all Member States and the general public of career opportunities in conference services, including through the increased use of social media;

120. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve and strengthen his initiatives related to training and replenishing the language capacity of the Organization, including through the outreach programmes, in order to ensure sufficient capacity to address the interpretation and translation requirements of the Organization;

121. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to liaise with permanent missions to identify outreach opportunities with universities, educational institutions and language learning centres located worldwide in order to ensure the continued availability of high-quality professional language services in the six official languages of the United Nations;

122. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve and expand the list of universities having memorandums of understanding and other collaborative arrangements with the United Nations, ensuring the inclusion of universities, educational institutions and language learning centres located in all geographical regions, whenever possible.

RESOLUTIONS 77/256 A and B

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/671, para. 10)

77/256. United Nations common system

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3357 (XXIX) of 18 December 1974, 74/255 A and B of 27 December 2019, 75/245 A of 31 December 2020, 75/245 B of 16 April 2021 and 76/240 of 24 December 2021, and the draft decision of the Fifth Committee of 8 November 2022,[49]

Having considered the views of the International Civil Service Commission and other stakeholders,

1. *Recalls* its resolutions 44/198 of 21 December 1989 and 45/259 of 3 May 1991, and for clarification purposes and without altering the Commission's authority or affecting the current operational reality, decides to amend articles 10 and 11 of the statute of the International Civil Service Commission[50] to read as follows:

Article 10

The Commission shall make recommendations to the General Assembly on:

(a) The broad principles for the determination of the conditions of service of the staff;

[49] A/C.5/77/L.5.

[50] Resolution 3357 (XXIX), annex.

(b) The salary scale and the value of the post adjustment multiplier for staff in the Professional and higher categories;

(c) Allowances and benefits of staff which are determined by the General Assembly;*

(d) Staff assessment.

Article 11

The Commission shall establish:

(a) The methods by which the principles for determining conditions of service should be applied;

(b) Rates of allowances and benefits, other than pensions and those referred to in article 10 (c), the conditions of entitlement thereto and standards of travel;

(c) The post adjustment applicable to each duty station.

* Dependency allowances and language incentives for staff in the Professional and higher categories, education grant, home leave, repatriation grant and termination indemnity.

2. *Reaffirms* the authority and competence of the International Civil Service Commission to establish post adjustment multipliers for duty stations in the United Nations common system, under article 11 (c) of the statute of the Commission;

3. *Urges* the organizations of the common system to reaffirm their commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system, and to that end invites them to complete, as quickly as practicable, formal acceptance of the amended statute;

4. *Calls upon* all organizations that have not done so to implement the post adjustment multipliers established by the Commission, based on the results of the 2021 baseline cost-of-living surveys, and calls upon all organizations to implement all future post adjustment multipliers established by the Commission, in compliance with their responsibilities as part of the common system arising from their acceptance of the statute of the Commission;

5. *Requests* the Commission to continue to monitor the implementation of its post adjustment decisions by organizations of the common system and to report thereon at the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/198 of 21 December 1989, 51/216 of 18 December 1996, 52/216 of 22 December 1997, 53/209 of 18 December 1998, 54/238 of 23 December 1999, 55/223 of 23 December 2000, 56/244 of 24 December 2001, 57/285 of 20 December 2002, 58/251 of 23 December 2003, 59/268 of 23 December 2004, 60/248 of 23 December 2005, 61/239 of 22 December 2006, 62/227 of 22 December 2007, 63/251 of 24 December 2008, 64/231 of 22 December 2009, 65/248 of 24 December 2010, 66/235 A of 24 December 2011, 66/235 B of 21 June 2012, 67/257 of 12 April 2013, 68/253 of 27 December 2013, 69/251 of 29 December 2014, 70/244 of 23 December 2015, 71/264 of 23 December 2016, 72/255 of 24 December 2017, 73/273 of 22 December 2018, 74/255 A and B of 27 December 2019, 75/245 A of 31 December 2020, 75/245 B of 16 April 2021 and 76/240 of 24 December 2021, and its decision 67/551 of 24 December 2012,

Having considered the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2022,[51]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

[51] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/77/30).

Emphasizing the importance of, and benefits derived from, maintaining a coherent and unified United Nations common system,

Recognizing the global financial challenges faced by Member States, which will impact the consideration by the General Assembly in 2023 of the cost implications of the decisions and recommendations of the Commission,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the International Civil Service Commission;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission for 2022;

3. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in approving conditions of service and entitlements for all staff serving in the organizations of the United Nations common system, bearing in mind articles 10 and 11 of the statute of the Commission;[52]

4. *Recalls* articles 10 and 11 of the statute of the Commission, reaffirms the central role of the Commission in regulating and coordinating conditions of service and entitlements for all staff serving in the organizations of the United Nations common system, and also recalls that members of the Commission shall perform their functions in full independence and with impartiality;

5. *Requests* the Commission, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to analyse any existing measures to ensure adherence to the common system salaries, allowances and benefits and to make proposals to reinforce implementation of common system decisions, as appropriate, in conjunction with governing bodies;

6. *Recalls* paragraphs 12 and 13 of its resolution 76/240, and requests the Commission to provide for the consideration of the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a detailed outline of its approach for the next comprehensive review of the compensation package, including the structure, parameters and timelines;

7. *Also recalls* paragraph 14 of its resolution 76/240, reiterates the importance of providing Member States with comprehensive data on system-wide compensation costs for all staff categories, and expects the provision of such data without delay;

8. *Further recalls* paragraph 14 of its resolution 76/240, and stresses the importance of timely submission by the United Nations common system organizations to the Commission of necessary information in order to ensure that the decisions and recommendations of the Commission are based on updated and reliable data;

9. *Highlights* the importance of effective and timely communication of the decisions of the Commission and the General Assembly to organizations of the common system and other stakeholders in accordance with the statute of the Commission, and of advice on complex legal matters related to the common system;

I
Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff

1. *Requests* the Commission to conduct a system-wide survey to assess factors affecting workforce retention and to submit the results and analysis of the survey to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session;

2. *Welcomes* the establishment of the new parental leave framework, requests the Secretary-General to implement the framework in the Secretariat of the United Nations within existing resources, on an exceptional basis, for the year 2023, and encourages executive heads of other organizations of the common system to follow such practice;

3. *Requests* the Commission to submit to the General Assembly at its eightieth session an assessment and review of the implementation of the parental leave framework, with a detailed analysis of utilization data, staff satisfaction, expenditures, the incentive function of the new framework and its impact on the workforce in the common system, in particular in terms of job attractiveness and workforce retention;

4. *Recalls* its resolution 73/273, recognizes that multilingualism strengthens the workforce diversity, welcomes the inclusion of multilingualism of the workforce in the programme of work of the Commission, and notes

[52] Resolution 3357 (XXIX), annex, as amended in resolution A.

that the language incentive will be considered within the next comprehensive review as a measure to promote multilingualism in the common system;

5. *Reaffirms* that the Commission shall establish, inter alia, standards of travel under article 11 (b) of the statute of the Commission, and requests the Commission to reconsider the pilot study on standards of accommodation for air travel, taking into account the provisions of resolutions of the General Assembly on standards of accommodation for air travel, and to report thereon in the context of the next report;

II
Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

A. Base/floor salary scale

Recalling its resolution 44/198, by which it established a floor net salary level for staff in the Professional and higher categories by reference to the corresponding base net salary levels of officials in comparable positions serving at the base city of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service),

Approves, with effect from 1 January 2023, as recommended by the Commission in paragraph 148 of its report, the revised unified base/floor salary scale and updated pay protection points for staff in the Professional and higher categories, as contained in annex IX to the report,

B. Evolution of the margin and margin management around the desirable midpoint

Recalling section I.B of its resolution 51/216 and the standing mandate from the General Assembly, in which the Commission is requested to continue its review of the relationship between the net remuneration of the United Nations staff in the Professional and higher categories in New York and that of the comparator civil service (the United States federal civil service) employees in comparable positions in Washington, D.C. (referred to as "the margin"),

1. *Reaffirms* that the range of 110 to 120 for the margin between the net remuneration of officials in the Professional and higher categories of the United Nations in New York and officials in comparable positions in the comparator civil service should continue to apply, on the understanding that the margin would be maintained at a level around the desirable midpoint of 115 over a period of time;

2. *Notes* that the margin between net remuneration of the United Nations staff in grades P-1 to D-2 in New York and that of officials in comparable positions in the United States federal civil service in Washington, D.C., for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2022 is 113.9;

3. *Recalls* its decision contained in resolution 70/244 that, if the margin trigger levels of 113 or 117 are breached, the Commission should take appropriate action through the operation of the post adjustment system;

4. *Notes* the decision of the Commission to continue monitoring the level of the margin and to take the necessary corrective action under the operation of the post adjustment system should the trigger levels of 113 or 117 be breached;

C. Children's and secondary dependants' allowances

1. *Invites* the Commission to further refine the structure of the children's and secondary dependants' allowances and to review the feasibility of applying a means-tested methodology, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

2. *Approves*, as a compensation measure, the allowance for children with disabilities in the amount of 6,645 dollars per annum until the children's and secondary dependants' allowances are further adjusted;

D. Hardship allowance and mobility incentive

1. *Invites* the Commission to reconsider its decisions on the levels of the hardship allowance and the mobility incentive and to assess the calculating methodologies based on the outcome of the next comprehensive compensation review;

2. *Recalls* section E, paragraph 3, of its resolution 74/255 B, and reiterates its encouragement to the organizations of the United Nations common system to consider the application of alternative administrative

measures, including non-financial incentives, to promote staff mobility, and the linking of mobility to staff development and career progression, to the extent possible.

RESOLUTION 77/257

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/671, para. 10)

77/257. Review of the jurisdictional set-up of the United Nations common system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 75/245 B of 16 April 2021,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[53] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[54] as well as the letter dated 4 November 2022 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chair of the Fifth Committee,[55]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General, submitted in full accordance with the provisions of resolution 75/245 B;

4. *Acknowledges* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in engaging with multiple stakeholders in the preparation of his report, and requests the Secretary-General to continue these consultations to find a sustainable, long-term solution with regard to the jurisdictional set-up and to preserve the unity of the United Nations common system;

5. *Stresses* the importance of preserving a single, unified and coherent United Nations common system, and recalls the respective roles of the General Assembly and the International Civil Service Commission in approving, regulating and coordinating conditions of service and entitlements for all staff serving in the organizations of the United Nations common system, as reaffirmed in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 74/255 B of 27 December 2019;

6. *Recalls* paragraph 41 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and encourages increased informal exchanges and sustained communication between the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the United Nations Appeals Tribunal and the International Labour Organization Administrative Tribunal;

7. *Notes* proposals 1 (facilitating submissions by the International Civil Service Commission to the tribunals during the litigation of applications or complaints arising out of Commission recommendations or decisions) and 2 (Commission guidance after tribunal judgments in cases involving Commission recommendations or decisions), as contained in the report of the Secretary-General, and requests the Commission, and encourages other relevant stakeholders, to implement them when appropriate;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to complete the work on the outstanding legal and practical aspects pertaining to the jurisdictional set-up of the United Nations common system, including finalizing past proposals and assessing the viability of other options, including those proposed by the stakeholders as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General, and to submit final proposals no later than the main part of the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, during the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, an informal briefing to Member States on the preparation of the final report on the jurisdictional set-up of the United Nations common system;

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[53] A/77/222.

[54] A/77/531.

[55] A/C.5/77/16.

10. *Decides* that the Secretary-General shall conclude the review of the jurisdictional set-up of the United Nations common system by 31 December 2023.

RESOLUTION 77/258

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/656, para. 6)

77/258. United Nations pension system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 75/246 of 31 December 2020 and section XIII of its resolution 76/246 A of 24 December 2021,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 2022,[56] the reports of the Secretary-General on the investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and measures undertaken to increase the diversification of the Fund[57] and on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[58] the financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 and the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund[59] and the recommendations contained therein, the report of the Chief Executive of Pension Administration and the Representative of the Secretary-General for the investment of the assets of the Fund on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report for the year ended 31 December 2021 on the Fund[60] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[61]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;

2. *Also takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and measures undertaken to increase the diversification of the Fund and on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;

3. *Further takes note* of the report of the Chief Executive of Pension Administration and the Representative of the Secretary-General for the investment of the assets of the Fund on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report for the year ended 31 December 2021 on the Fund;

4. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

5. *Emphasizes* the existing prerogative of the General Assembly on matters pertaining to the Fund;

6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;

Financial statements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and report of the Board of Auditors

7. *Acknowledges* the commitment of the Pension Fund to manage long-standing recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and reiterates the importance of the secretariat of the Fund, the Pension Board and the Representative of the Secretary-General addressing all the accepted recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services, in full and in a timely manner, and of reporting thereon in the next report to the General Assembly;

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[56] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 9* (A/77/9).

[57] A/C.5/77/2.

[58] A/C.5/77/3.

[59] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5P* (A/77/5/Add.16).

[60] A/77/286.

[61] A/77/7/Add.10.

Actuarial matters

8. *Stresses* the importance of continuing to achieve the necessary 3.5 per cent annual real rate of return on a long-term basis for the future solvency of the Fund;

Governance matters

9. *Welcomes* the continued implementation by the Pension Board of the governance reform plan, which takes into account best practices as recommended by the Governance Working Group and respects the unique nature of the Fund, acknowledges that the Board considers that the reform plan has started to contribute to improving efficiency and effective decision-making, and requests the Board to monitor and report on the progress achieved in this regard to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

10. *Recalls* paragraph 13 of section XIII of its resolution 76/246 A, and requests the Pension Board to provide an update at the main part of the seventy-eighth session;

11. *Also recalls* paragraph 14 of section XIII of its resolution 76/246 A, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General and the Pension Board ensure that the staff composition of the Office of Investment Management and of the Pension Administration is based on as wide a geographical basis as possible, bearing in mind Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and to make every effort to provide an update on progress achieved in the context of their next reports;

Pension Administration

12. *Welcomes* the proposal to establish a Risk Management Unit aimed at strengthening the risk management capabilities of the Pension Administration, and requests the Board to provide updated information on the Unit's performance in the next report;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of implementing swiftly the new customer relationship management system, and calls upon all involved stakeholders to conclude the procurement contract before the end of 2022, in order to strengthen services to clients and deal with the increased number of requests while improving efficiency gains;

14. *Recalls* paragraph 55 of the report of the Advisory Committee, welcomes the deployment of the digital certificate of entitlement, and requests the Pension Administration to provide an update on the utilization of the digital certificate of entitlement, including progress on the reduction of risks of fraud or overpayments, and on measures to ensure its cost-effective implementation in the context of its next report;

Investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

15. *Reaffirms* that the Secretary-General serves as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund;

16. *Also reaffirms* that the investment of the assets of the Fund shall be decided upon by the Secretary-General after consultation with an Investments Committee and in the light of observations and suggestions made from time to time by the Pension Board on the investments policy;

17. *Notes* that the annual real rate of return of the Fund for the 10-year and 15-year periods remained markedly above the long-term objective of 3.5 per cent, and encourages the Fund to continue its efforts to improve the performance of its investments and identify suitable comparators with peers from various countries and provide a comparison thereof in the context of its next report;

18. *Recalls* the four main criteria for investment utilized by the Fund, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to explore, in consultation with the Investments Committee and taking into account the observations and suggestions by the Pension Board, impact investing for part of the portfolio, including in developing and emerging markets, such as Africa and Asia and other regions, bearing in mind the real rate of return target, and to report thereon to the General Assembly in his next report;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund, to continue to diversify its investments among developed, developing and emerging markets, wherever this serves the interests of the participants and the beneficiaries of the Fund, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that decisions concerning the investments of the Fund in any market are implemented prudently, taking fully into account the four main criteria for investment, namely, safety, profitability, liquidity and convertibility;

20. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of section XIII of its resolution 76/246 A, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an update to the General Assembly on efforts being made to diversify its investments among developed, developing and emerging markets, including information on investments by country and geographical region and by currency and asset class, in the context of his next report;

21. *Approves* an extension of one year for the Secretary-General to conduct trading of derivative instruments, which had not been executed as at 30 September 2022, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an update to the General Assembly on the progress made thus far at its seventy-eighth session;

Other matters

22. *Decides* to approve the proposed amendment to article 1 of the Regulations of the Pension Fund to allow the restoration of all or partial contributory service in the case of deferred retirement benefits and the proposed new article 24 bis to include in the Regulations of the Fund the restoration of prior contributory service in the case of deferred retirement benefits, as set out in annex III to the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 2022;

23. *Requests* the Pension Board to provide, without prejudice to national law, the requisite framework for extension of the guidelines to allow retrospective recognition of beneficiaries arising from marriages, in cases where changes under national legislation occurred after the time of the former participants' separation from service and they separated prior to the adoption of the revised guidelines in 2016, as appropriate, and requests the Board to report thereon in the context of the next report;

24. *Notes* that the Pension Fund relies on member organizations' applying the correct pensionable remuneration scales to determine contributions to the Fund, and requests the Pension Fund to provide information in the context of the next report on steps taken in cases where the incorrect pensionable remuneration rate is applied by member organizations of the Pension Fund for purposes of administering the Fund's Regulations;

Budget estimates for 2023

25. *Requests* the Pension Board to further refine and support effective implementation of key performance indicators and workload drivers of the Pension Administration and the Office of Investment Management in relation to their budget requests;

26. *Emphasizes* that the aim of reviewing all the general temporary assistance positions of the Fund is not necessarily converting positions into posts, but rather increasing efficiency through the elimination of duplication of functions;

27. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Pension Board to strengthen its efforts to improve budgeting accuracy, including as it pertains to the establishment of vacancy rates;

Pension Administration

28. *Recalls* paragraph 32 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to adjust the Pension Administration vacancy rate to 6.1 per cent for the Professional and higher categories and 10.1 per cent for the General Service category;

29. *Takes note* of paragraphs 31 and 37 of the report of the Advisory Committee, decides to redeploy the Risk Management Officer (P-4) and the Programme Management Officer (P-3) from the Business Transformation and Accountability Unit to the Risk Management Unit, and further decides to reclassify the Risk Management Officer (P-4) to a Senior Risk Management Officer (P-5);

30. *Also takes note* of paragraph 33 of the report of the Advisory Committee, acknowledges the need to establish alternative payment channels, and decides to establish the Accounting Assistant (General Service (Other level)) post;

31. *Further takes note* of paragraph 34 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to establish the Benefits Officer (P-3) post in the Operations Coordination and Liaison Unit;

32. *Recalls* paragraph 41 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to further reduce resources for travel of staff in the Pension Administration by 10 per cent;

Office of Investment Management

33. *Recalls* paragraph 44 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to adjust the Office of Investment Management vacancy rate to 14.7 per cent for the Professional and higher categories;

34. *Takes note* of paragraph 45 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves the conversion into posts of one Accountant (P-3) and one Associate Investment Officer (P-2);

35. *Approves* the changes to the staffing table as set out in the table below:

A. Pension Administration

Action	*Title of post*	*Category/level*	*Number*
New post	Legal Officer	P-3	1
New post	Treasurer	P-3	1
New post	Benefits Officer	P-3	1
New post	Information Systems Officer	P-3	1
New post	Senior Accounting Assistant	GS (PL)	1
New post	Programme Management Assistant	GS (OL)	1
New post	Treasury Assistant	GS (OL)	1
New post	Accounting Assistant	GS (OL)	1
New post	Human Resources Assistant	GS (OL)	1
Total new posts			**9**
Conversion	Special Assistant to the Chief Executive	P-5	1
Conversion	Data Specialist	P-4	1
Conversion	Accountant	P-3	1
Conversion	Information Systems Officer	P-3	1
Conversion	Public Information Officer	P-3	1
Conversion	Accounting Assistant	GS (OL)	9
Conversion	Information Systems Assistant	GS (OL)	1
Conversion	Benefits Assistant	GS (OL)	1
Conversion	Team Assistant	GS (OL)	1
Conversion	Facility Management Assistant	GS (OL)	1
Total conversions			**18**
Total net changes			**27**
Reassignment	Legal Assistant	GS (OL)	1
Reassignment	Programme Management Officer	P-3	1
Reassignment	Programme Management Officer	P-4	1
Reclassification	Senior Risk Management Officer	P-5	1
Reclassification	Information Systems Officer	P-4	1
Reclassification	Senior Human Resources Assistant	GS (PL)	1
Redeployment from the Business Transformation and Accountability Unit to the Risk Management Unit	Risk Management Officer	P-4	1
Redeployment from the Business Transformation and Accountability Unit to the Risk Management Unit	Programme Management Officer	P-3	1

Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level).

B. Office of Investment Management

Action	*Title of post*	*Category/level*	*Number*
New post	Investment Officer (Europe)	P-3	1
New post	Investment Officer (Fixed Income)	P-3	3
New post	Associate Programme Management Officer	P-2/1	1
Total new posts			**5**
Conversion	Investment Officer (North America)	P-4	1
Conversion	Investment Officer (Fixed Income)	P-4	2
Conversion	Information Systems Officer	P-4	1
Conversion	Accountant	P-3	2
Conversion	Associate Investment Officer (Environmental, Social and Governance)	P-2/1	2
Total conversions			**8**
Total net changes			**13**
Reclassification	Senior Compliance Officer	P-5	1

36. *Approves* the estimates of 126,283,400 United States dollars for the administration of the Fund for 2023;

37. *Also approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 117,576,300 dollars net for 2023;

38. *Further approves* the amount of 8,707,100 dollars as the cost of the services provided by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund to the secretariat of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee for 2023, of which 5,337,500 dollars would represent the share of the regular budget and the balance of 3,369,600 dollars would represent the share of the funds and programmes;

39. *Approves* the decrease of 83,800 dollars in the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the central secretariat of the Fund under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

40. *Authorizes* the Pension Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for 2023 by an amount not to exceed 112,500 dollars.

RESOLUTION 77/259

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/657, para. 6)

77/259. Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

The General Assembly,

I
Activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, 54/244 of 23 December 1999, 59/272 of 23 December 2004, 60/259 of 8 May 2006, 63/265 of 24 December 2008, 64/232 of 22 December 2009, 64/263 of 29 March 2010, 65/250 of 24 December 2010, 66/236 of 24 December 2011, 67/258 of 12 April 2013, 68/21 of 4 December 2013, 69/252 and 69/253 of 29 December 2014, 70/111 of 14 December 2015, 71/7 of 27 October 2016, 72/18 of 1 December 2017, 73/275 of 22 December 2018, 74/256 and 74/257 of 27 December 2019, 75/247 of 31 December 2020 and 76/241 of 24 December 2021,

Having considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on its activities for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022,[62]

1. *Reaffirms* its primary role in the consideration of and action taken on reports submitted to it;

2. *Also reaffirms* its oversight role and the role of the Fifth Committee in administrative and budgetary matters;

3. *Further reaffirms* the independence and the separate and distinct roles of the internal and external oversight mechanisms;

4. *Recognizes* the important roles and operational independence of the oversight bodies, including the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat, in contributing to improvements in the effectiveness, transparency and accountability of the Organization;

5. *Recalls* that the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat shall exercise operational independence relating to the performance of its internal oversight functions, under the authority of the Secretary-General, in accordance with the relevant resolutions;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the annual reports of the Office continue to include a brief description of any impairment of its independence;

7. *Encourages* United Nations internal and external oversight bodies to further enhance the level of cooperation with one another, such as through joint work-planning sessions, without prejudice to the independence of each;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Office on its activities for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions pertaining to the work of the Office are brought to the attention of the relevant managers;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all relevant resolutions, including those of a cross-cutting nature, are brought to the attention of relevant managers and that the Office also takes those resolutions into account in the conduct of its activities;

II
Activities of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee

Recalling its resolutions 61/275 of 29 June 2007, 64/263, section II of its resolution 65/250, section II of its resolution 66/236, section II of its resolution 67/258, section II of its resolution 68/21, section II of its resolution 69/252, section II of its resolution 70/111, section II of its resolution 71/7, section II of its resolution 72/18, section II of its resolution 73/275, section II of its resolution 74/256, section II of its resolution 75/247 and section II of its resolution 76/241,

Having considered the report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on its activities for the period from 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022,[63]

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;

2. *Reaffirms* the terms of reference of the Committee, as contained in the annex to its resolution 61/275.

RESOLUTION 77/260

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/654, para. 6)

[62] A/77/278 (Part I) and A/77/278 (Part I)/Add.1.

[63] A/77/273.

77/260. Administration of justice at the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling section XI of its resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001 and its resolutions 57/307 of 15 April 2003, 59/266 of 23 December 2004, 59/283 of 13 April 2005, 61/261 of 4 April 2007, 62/228 of 22 December 2007, 63/253 of 24 December 2008, 64/233 of 22 December 2009, 65/251 of 24 December 2010, 66/237 of 24 December 2011, 67/241 of 24 December 2012, 68/254 of 27 December 2013, 69/203 of 18 December 2014, 70/112 of 14 December 2015, 71/266 of 23 December 2016, 72/256 of 24 December 2017, 73/276 of 22 December 2018, 74/258 of 27 December 2019, 75/248 of 31 December 2020 and 76/242 of 24 December 2021,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the administration of justice at the United Nations[64] and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services,[65] the report of the Internal Justice Council on the administration of justice at the United Nations[66] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[67] as well as the letter dated 21 November 2022 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chair of the Fifth Committee,[68]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the administration of justice at the United Nations and on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, the report of the Internal Justice Council on the administration of justice at the United Nations and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions in the present resolution;

I
System of administration of justice

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the principle of judicial independence in the system of administration of justice;

4. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring access for all staff members to the system of administration of justice, regardless of their duty station;

5. *Acknowledges* the evolving nature of the system of administration of justice and the need to carefully monitor its implementation to ensure that it remains within the parameters set out by the General Assembly;

6. *Reaffirms* its decision, contained in paragraph 4 of its resolution 61/261, to establish a new, independent, transparent, professionalized, adequately resourced and decentralized system of administration of justice consistent with the relevant rules of international law and the principles of the rule of law and due process to ensure respect for the rights and obligations of staff members and the accountability of managers and staff members alike;

7. *Emphasizes* equal treatment of the six official languages of the United Nations, notes that multilingualism within the system of administration of justice contributes to efficient and effective dispute resolution and increased outreach and awareness-raising, welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General in this regard to implement multilingualism policies in compliance with relevant rules and regulations, and further requests the Secretary-General to report on measures, and relevant remaining challenges, to continue efforts to promote multilingualism in his future reports;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure a strong culture of accountability throughout the Secretariat, in particular with proactive and transparent application of the United Nations three-pillared approach to the management of misconduct, namely, prevention, enforcement and remedial action, and to ensure access to effective remedies for all categories of personnel;

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[64] A/77/156.

[65] A/77/151.

[66] A/77/130.

[67] A/77/559.

[68] A/C.5/77/17.

9. *Takes note* of paragraph 7 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to hold managers accountable when their decisions have been established to be grossly negligent according to the applicable Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations[69] and have led to litigation and subsequent financial loss, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

11. *Recalls* paragraph 7 of its resolution 63/253, welcomes the continued efforts of the Secretary-General to improve the prevention and resolution of disputes involving non-staff personnel and his efforts to further explore more cost-effective means to resolve disputes, and requests the Secretary-General to report on progress, including the financial and administrative impact, to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

12. *Reiterates* that retaliation against complainants or staff appearing as witnesses constitutes misconduct, notes with appreciation the policy on protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized audits or investigations,[70] underscores the importance of raising awareness of the policy, as well as the efforts to continuously improve the framework for protection from retaliation, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to provide information on the implementation of the policy for all categories of personnel covered in his next report;

13. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as the Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to promote protection against retaliation across the system;

II
Informal system

14. *Recognizes* that the informal system of administration of justice is an efficient and effective option both for staff who seek redress of grievances and for the participation of managers;

15. *Reaffirms* that the informal resolution of conflict is a crucial element of the system of administration of justice, emphasizes that all possible use should be made of the informal system in order to avoid unnecessary litigation, without prejudice to the basic right of staff members to access the formal system, and encourages recourse to the informal resolution of disputes;

16. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the informal dispute resolution process in the Organization, which represents an effective method of dispute resolution as compared with the formal process, and the central role of mediation, and emphasizes that all possible use should be made of the informal system;

17. *Recognizes* mediation as a core part of the work of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services and as a cost-effective method of informal conflict resolution, underlines the importance of increasing the use of mediation services, and encourages improved communication between all parts of the system of administration of justice to increase opportunities to address underutilized mediation;

18. *Recalls* paragraph 46 of the report of the Advisory Committee, requests the Secretary-General to increase awareness among staff of the possibility of having conversations with the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services to explore informal resolution, including mediation, as a first step, where feasible, prior to filing a formal complaint, encourages such conversations, and also requests the Secretary-General to provide further information in this regard;

19. *Notes* the practice of reporting about systemic observations in the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, and requests the Secretary-General to continue such practice and to resume the practice of providing information since the seventy-fourth session on measures taken to address the systemic issues identified, and to report thereon in his future reports;

20. *Recalls* paragraph 25 of its resolution 75/248, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to take action to address all cases of harassment against female staff, including through providing tools and mandatory training on the value of civility in the workplace, and to report thereon in his next report;

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[69] ST/SGB/2018/1/Rev.2.

[70] ST/SGB/2017/2/Rev.1.

21. *Also recalls* paragraph 61 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and notes the referral of visitors to staff counselling services by the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, as appropriate;

22. *Notes* the Secretary-General's strategic action plan for addressing racism and promoting dignity for all in the United Nations Secretariat and the mandate established in its resolution 76/271 of 29 June 2022, encourages the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services to provide observations on the trends and patterns of racism and racial discrimination and remedial actions taken within the Organization, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in the context of his next report on the activities of the Office;

23. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services to provide, on an annual basis, a statistical overview with data on mediation cases, including on case volume and trends, and the resolution rate of cases mediated by the Office and information on cases with full resolution, and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

24. *Decides* to continue the pilot project for non-staff personnel within existing resources, notes the merit in continued access of non-staff personnel to the services of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, and requests the Office to provide further information, including data on the number of non-staff personnel serviced and information on the benefits of such service, in the context of the next report, with a view to regularizing the pilot project within existing resources;

III
Formal system

25. *Recognizes* the ongoing positive contribution of the Office of Staff Legal Assistance to the system of administration of justice;

26. *Welcomes* the effort of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal to reduce the number of pending and ageing cases, stresses the importance of continued implementation of all measures to avoid the backlog of cases, with priority for cases which are pending for over 400 days, and requests the Secretary-General to continuously monitor cases through the case disposal plan and real-time case-tracking dashboard;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to track the data on the number of cases received by the Management Evaluation Unit and the Dispute Tribunal in order to identify any emerging trends, and to report thereon in the context of his next report;

28. *Welcomes* the launch of the Caselaw portal, which includes search criteria, filters and a digest of all judgments of the United Nations Dispute and Appeals Tribunals and contributes to a more transparent and accessible system of administration of justice, and to the upholding of the principle of accountability, and requests the Secretary-General to provide further information on the functioning of the portal in his next report;

29. *Recognizes* that the voluntary supplemental funding mechanism for the Office of Staff Legal Assistance is an invaluable resource for the funding of its staff members and its presence in the field, notes with concern the continuing opt-out rates from the voluntary staff funding mechanism, and requests the Secretary-General to further his efforts to strengthen incentives for staff not to opt out, particularly in locations and United Nations entities where the participation rate is low, and to report on measures taken in this regard in the context of his next report;

30. *Recalls* paragraph 27 of its resolution 74/258, and decides to approve article 19 (2) of the proposed amendments to the rules of procedure of the Dispute Tribunal as set out in annex I to the report of the Secretary-General on the administration of justice at the United Nations;

31. *Encourages* the Dispute Tribunal to conduct further consultations on the interlinkage between the remaining amendments to the rules of procedure and existing rules, build consensus on the remaining amendments, and bring them to the attention of the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session in the context of the report of the Secretary-General on the administration of justice at the United Nations;

32. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General to amend the statute of the Dispute Tribunal as set out in paragraph 128 of his report on the administration of justice at the United Nations, and of the different views expressed by key stakeholders, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to consult the various stakeholders on this important legal issue, revert to the appropriate committee to consider the matter and report thereon to the General Assembly, with a view to concluding its consideration at the seventy-eighth session;

33. *Stresses* that all elements of the system of administration of justice as well as disciplinary measures must work in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the legal and regulatory framework approved by the General Assembly;

34. *Reaffirms* the authority of the Secretary-General to impose disciplinary measures on staff who have engaged in misconduct consistent with the regulatory framework established by the General Assembly;

35. *Affirms* that the Dispute Tribunal and the Appeals Tribunal shall exercise their powers according to their respective statutes, including that the Dispute Tribunal is competent to hear and pass judgment on an application filed by an individual to appeal an administrative decision imposing a disciplinary measure and the Appeals Tribunal is competent to hear and pass judgment on an appeal filed against a judgment rendered by the Dispute Tribunal;

IV
Other issues

36. *Invites* the Sixth Committee to consider the legal aspects of the report to be submitted by the Secretary-General, without prejudice to the role of the Fifth Committee as the Main Committee entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters.

RESOLUTION 77/261

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/660, para. 6)

77/261. Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the budget performance for 2021, the proposed budget for 2023 and the revised estimates arising from the effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals,[71] the financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 and the report of the Board of Auditors on the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals[72] and the recommendations contained therein, as well as the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[73]

Recalling its resolution 66/240 A of 24 December 2011 on the financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 76/243 of 24 December 2021,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals;

4. *Recalls* paragraphs 8 and 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[74] and encourages the Mechanism to ensure the prompt and efficient completion of its remaining work;

5. *Also recalls* paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and encourages the Mechanism to complete the digitization of its archives, including through the use of voluntary contributions;

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[71] A/77/488, A/77/528 and A/77/628.

[72] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5O* (A/77/5/Add.15).

[73] A/77/626 and A/77/7/Add.37.

[74] A/77/626.

6. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts made by the Mechanism to reduce its costs and enhance its efficiency as well as the timeliness of its activities, to make greater use of the lessons learned and to adopt appropriate measures for achieving further operational savings and efficiencies, in order to ensure the expeditious completion of judicial activities, in a transparent, accountable and cost-effective manner;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop a compendium of lessons learned and best practices from the closure of predecessor tribunals;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report in his next budget proposal on the efforts made so far during the ongoing downsizing exercise to assist staff in identifying opportunities for future employment in accordance with relevant Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;[75]

9. *Notes* the importance of ensuring continued public consciousness of the events leading to the establishment of the Mechanism, recalls paragraph 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Mechanism to continue the provision of library services to the public within existing resources;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide additional and detailed information on the final expenditures and unencumbered balance, as well as its return to Member States in the context of the next report;

11. *Notes* the efforts of the Mechanism to gradually downsize its operations in the light of its reduced functions, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism continues to take measures in this regard;

12. *Takes note* of paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to approve the redeployment of one post of Chief Security Officer from Arusha to The Hague;

13. *Decides* not to redeploy one post of Finance and Budget Officer from Arusha to The Hague;

14. *Also decides* to further reduce resources for general operating expenses by 6 per cent and to further reduce resources for grants and contributions by 9 per cent;

15. *Takes note* of paragraph 33 (b) of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to approve the amount of 8,133,800 United States dollars (before recosting) under contractual services;

16. *Decides* to appropriate to the special account for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals a total amount of 81,945,300 dollars gross (74,951,200 dollars net) for 2023, as detailed in the annex to the present resolution;

17. *Also decides* that the total assessment for 2023 under the special account amounting to 71,742,100 dollars shall consist of:

(a) 81,945,300 dollars, being the estimated appropriation approved for the period;

(b) Less 3,029,600 dollars, being the credit of the cancellation of prior period obligations/commitments corresponding to the year 2020, and other revenue;

(c) Less 7,173,600 dollars, being the surplus resulting from the final expenditure for the budget for 2021;

18. *Further decides* to apportion the amount of 35,871,050 dollars gross (32,578,700 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2023;

19. *Decides* to apportion the amount of 35,871,050 dollars gross (32,578,700 dollars net) among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2023;

20. *Also decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 18 and 19 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income in the amount of 6,584,700 dollars approved for the Mechanism for 2023.

[75] ST/SGB/2018/1/Rev.2.

Annex
Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for 2023

	Gross	*Net of staff assessment*
	(United States dollars)	
Estimated appropriation for 2023[a]	78 992 300	72 288 600
Revised estimates: effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation[b]	4 832 900	4 542 500
Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[c]	(2 064 700)	(2 064 600)
Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	184 800	184 700
Estimated initial appropriation for 2023	**81 945 300**	**74 951 200**
Total assessment for 2023		
Requirements for 2023	81 945 300	74 951 200
Cancellation of commitments for the year 2020	(3 029 600)	(3 029 600)
Surplus resulting from the final expenditure for the budget for 2021	(7 173 600)	(6 764 200)
Net contributions assessed on Member States for 2023	**71 742 100**	**65 157 400**
Of which:		
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2023	35 871 050	32 578 700
Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations of the United Nations for 2023	35 871 050	32 578 700

[a] See A/77/528.
[b] See A/77/628.
[c] Reflects amounts after recosting.

RESOLUTION 77/262

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/672, para. 68)

77/262. Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for 2023

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 42/211 of 21 December 1987, 45/248 B, section VI, of 21 December 1990, 55/231 of 23 December 2000, 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 58/269 and 58/270 of 23 December 2003, 59/276, section XI, of 23 December 2004, 60/283 of 7 July 2006, 61/263 of 4 April 2007, 62/236 of 22 December 2007, 63/262 of 24 December 2008, 64/243 of 24 December 2009, 65/259 of 24 December 2010, 66/246 of 24 December 2011, 68/246 of 27 December 2013, 70/247 of 23 December 2015, 71/272 A of 23 December 2016, 72/261 and 72/266 A of 24 December 2017, 72/266 B of 5 July 2018, 73/281 of 22 December 2018, 74/262 of 27 December 2019, 75/252 of 31 December 2020, 76/245 and 76/246 A of 24 December 2021, 76/246 B of 13 April 2022 and 76/271 of 29 June 2022,

Reaffirming also the respective mandates of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in the consideration of the proposed programme budget,

Reaffirming further the role of the General Assembly, through the Fifth Committee, in carrying out a thorough analysis and approval of posts and financial resources, as well as of human resources policies,

Expressing deep concern about the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations and its ability to implement mandates and programmes,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for 2023,[76] the report of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee on internal oversight: proposed programme budget for 2023[77] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[78]

Having also considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of women and peace and security in field-based missions: elections and political transitions,[79]

Having further considered the note by the Secretary-General drawing attention to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on business continuity management in United Nations system organizations[80] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[81]

1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and also reaffirms the role of the Fifth Committee in carrying out a thorough analysis and approving human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;

2. *Also reaffirms* rule 153 of its rules of procedure;

3. *Further reaffirms* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;[82]

4. *Reaffirms* the established budgetary procedures and methodologies, based on its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211;

5. *Also reaffirms* the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;[83]

6. *Further reaffirms* its resolution 77/254 of 30 December 2022;

7. *Reaffirms* its resolution 77/267 of 30 December 2022;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee of Administrative and Budgetary Questions, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

9. *Stresses* that finance serves as a foundation of and an important element underpinning United Nations governance;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[84] and notes with appreciation the efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure adequate, sustainable and predictable resources for development, with the aim of leaving no one behind;

11. *Urges* all Member States to fulfil their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations on time, in full and without conditions;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to facilitate Member States' payments of their assessed contributions;

13. *Notes* that organizational reforms should contribute to greater efficiency and effectiveness in delivering the Organization's mandated programmes and activities without negatively affecting their full implementation, and

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[76] A/77/6 (Introduction), Sects. 1–36 and Income sects. 1–3 and corrigenda.

[77] A/77/85.

[78] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/77/7).

[79] A/77/83.

[80] A/77/256.

[81] A/77/256/Add.1.

[82] ST/SGB/2018/3.

[83] ST/SGB/2013/4 and ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1.

[84] Resolution 70/1.

requests the Secretary-General to provide results and examples in this regard in the context of his next budget submission;

14. *Also notes* the increased size and volume of documentation that forms the proposed programme budget, and notes with appreciation that the Secretary-General continues his efforts to enhance the quality, clarity and usability of the proposed programme budget in consultation with Member States, while maintaining the level of information provided to Member States;

15. *Stresses* that results-based budgeting and results-based management are mutually supportive management tools and that improved implementation of results-based budgeting enhances both management and accountability in the Secretariat, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of comprehensive budgetary performance in the management of the programme plan and programme budget, and requests the Secretary-General to clearly link the budget inputs to tangible results;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in future proposed programme budgets the indicative cost estimates of major construction projects in the top-line budget figure in the introductory section of the budget, for information purposes only;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen internal controls in programme planning, budgeting, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting;

19. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue cost-effective and efficient practices in future budget submissions;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that each programme of the regular budget undergoes a spending review at least once every five years, to be implemented from the proposed programme budget for 2024 onward;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide calculations of both gross and net requirements for the proposed programme budget in future budget submissions;

22. *Notes* the provision of information to Member States online, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake pre-posting of job openings irrespective of the liquidity situation of the Organization and to proactively approach pre-posting of vacancies in order to be in the position to expeditiously launch and complete recruitment actions;

24. *Takes note* of paragraph 35 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

25. *Reiterates its concern* about the high number of vacancies, and requests the Secretary-General to fill vacant positions expeditiously, to review all positions that have been vacant for 24 months or longer, to propose either their retention, with clear justification of need, or abolishment, and to provide a list of all long-vacant positions and actions taken in the annex to his future reports;

26. *Recalls* paragraph 51 of the report of the Advisory Committee, underlines the importance of using consistent, realistic and accurate budgetary assumptions for posts and positions, and decides that all reclassifications of functions, reassignments, conversions and redeployments (including geographical), as well as establishment of new temporary positions, should apply the continuing vacancy rate as approved by the General Assembly;

27. *Also recalls* paragraph 57 of the report of the Advisory Committee, reiterates the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to take additional measures to improve multilingualism and the equal and adequate treatment of all six official languages and to report thereon in the next programme budget submission;

28. *Takes note* of paragraph 62 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

29. *Also takes note* of paragraph 75 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and stresses that all extrabudgetary posts must be administered and managed with the same rigour as regular budget posts;

30. *Decides* that a vacancy rate of 12.4 per cent for Professional staff and 10.2 per cent for General Service staff shall be used as a basis for the calculation of the budget for 2023;

31. *Also decides* that the staffing table for 2023 shall be as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

Part I
Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

Section 1
Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

32. *Recalls* its resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018, reaffirms its request to the Secretary-General to report annually to the Economic and Social Council at its operational activities for development segment on the implementation of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including its funding, to ensure accountability towards Member States;

33. *Takes note* of paragraph I.7 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

34. *Also takes note* of paragraph I.9 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

Section 2
General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management

35. *Recalls* paragraph 8 of its resolution 75/252, commends the increased throughput productivity of the translation services across all duty stations and the achievements made by language staff to meet the revised workload standards, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure adequate training and technical support in order to ensure equal treatment of all official languages;

36. *Also recalls* paragraph I.59 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and commends the Secretary-General's effort to ensure high-quality documentation while at the same time using tools such as eLUNa to capture the high volume of recycled text as well as maximizing machine translation to deliver documentation services in a more efficient and timely manner;

37. *Further recalls* paragraphs I.57 and I.59 of the report of the Advisory Committee, requests the Secretary-General to fully implement the revised individual productivity standards for translation, and reaffirms the coefficients reflected therein, used to convert all assignments to 5.8 pages per day for translation and adjusted upward accordingly for self-revision and revision;

38. *Recalls* paragraph 8 of its resolution 75/252 and paragraph 37 of its resolution 76/245, commends the increased throughput productivity of the translation services across all duty stations, made possible by new working methods and technologies, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take measures to ensure equal treatment of all six official languages and equal quality of service for Member States, while fully respecting the specificities of each official language and different levels of benefit from information technology advances for different languages;

Part II
Political affairs

Section 3
Political affairs

39. *Takes note* of paragraph II.62 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

Part III
International justice and law

Section 8
Legal affairs

40. *Takes note* of paragraphs III. 64, 65, 66 and 67 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

41. *Decides* that regular budget resources for the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International

Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011 under section 8, Legal affairs, for 2023 amount to 17,129,200 United States dollars before recosting;

Part IV
International cooperation for development

Section 9
Economic and social affairs

42. *Takes note* of paragraph IV.18 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

Section 10
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

43. *Notes* the importance of science, innovation and technology in addressing humanity's challenges, and invites the Secretary-General to explore expanding the support to and cooperation with the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries to other vulnerable countries, including landlocked developing countries and small island developing States;

Section 11
United Nations system support for the African Union's Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want

44. *Recalls* that the development of Africa is an established priority of the United Nations, and reaffirms its commitment to addressing the unique needs of Africa;

Section 12
Trade and development

45. *Decides* on the following distribution of the proposed establishment of posts: one P-4 and one P-3 Statistician post to the Statistics Service, two P-2 posts to subprogramme 1, one P-4 and one P-3 post to subprogramme 4, and one P-5, one P-3 and one P-2 post to subprogramme 5;

Section 15
Human settlements

46. *Recalls* the recommendations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph IV.140 of its report, especially its recommendation to encourage the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to continue to cooperate closely with the resident coordinator system and to explore opportunities for increased cooperation with other entities, in order to leverage shared expertise and capacity to consolidate system-wide efforts to implement programmatic activities in support of Member States;

47. *Also recalls* paragraph IV.132 of the report of the Advisory Committee, notes the functional analysis undertaken by UN-Habitat, and decides on the following distribution of the proposed conversions: one P-3 post under Governing Bodies Secretariat, policymaking organs; two P-4 posts under Office of the Executive Director, executive direction and management; two P-4 posts under Global Solutions Division; and one D-1 post and one Local level post under Management Advisory and Compliance Service, programme support;

Section 17
UN-Women

48. *Takes note* of paragraph IV.168 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

49. *Also takes note* of paragraph IV.170 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves the reclassification from P-3 to P-4 of the post of Finance and Budget Officer;

50. *Further takes note* of paragraph IV.177 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

51. *Takes note* of paragraph IV.178 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and emphasizes that the Secretary-General shall continue to improve gender balance among all United Nations staff;

Part V
Regional cooperation for development

Section 21
Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean

52. *Acknowledges* the cooperation of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean with the United Nations development system, including its collaborative work with entities of the system on country programme documents, as well as the establishment of the Caribbean Resilience Fund, and recognizes its cooperation with the Regional Collaborative Platform for Latin America and the Caribbean, which has helped to promote common regional strategies and messages to provide demand-driven support to countries in the region;

Part VI
Human rights and humanitarian affairs

Section 26
Palestine refugees

53. *Takes note* of paragraph VI.74 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and recalls its decision to consider a gradual increase in the United Nations regular budget allocation to the Agency that would, in addition to covering international staff requirements, in accordance with resolution 3331 B (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, be utilizable to support expenses for operational costs related to executive and administrative management functions of the Agency, and its invitation to the Secretary-General, accordingly, to submit proposals for consideration by the relevant committees at the seventy-eighth session;

54. *Decides* to approve resources at the Secretary-General level;

Section 27
Humanitarian assistance

55. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to explore strengthening his collaboration with regional and subregional organizations, where appropriate, to improve the capability to use new technologies in supporting humanitarian work;

Part VII
Global communications

Section 28
Global communications

56. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore liaising with Africa's regional and subregional organizations so as to increase knowledge and awareness of the mandate and activities of the United Nations on the continent, including on the 2030 Agenda and related opportunities, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

57. *Takes note* of paragraph VII.8 (a) of the report of the Advisory Committee;

Part VIII
Common support services

Section 29A
Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance

58. *Takes note* of paragraph VIII.8 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

Section 29B
Department of Operational Support

59. *Takes note* of paragraph VIII.36 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to establish a post of Property Management Officer (P-3);

Section 29C
Office of Information and Communications Technology

60. *Takes note* of paragraph VIII.60 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves the proposed redeployments;

Part XII
Safety and security

Section 34
Safety and security

61. *Takes note* of paragraphs XII.8 and XII.13 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and approves the establishment of one post of Director (D-2), one post of Programme Management Officer (P-4) and one post of Associate Information Management Officer (P-2) under the Division of Specialized Operational Support;

Income section 2
General income

62. *Decides* to increase the income expected from bank interests under income section 2 by 7,900,600 dollars;

Income section 3
Services to the public

63. *Decides* to increase the income expected under income section 3 by 3,177,000 dollars, while maintaining garage rates at their current level and not introducing any changes in the garage operations policies.

Annex
Staffing table for 2023

Category	*Number of posts*
Expenditure sections	
Professional and higher	
Deputy Secretary-General	1
Under-Secretary-General	37
Assistant Secretary-General	34
D-2	116
D-1	311
P-5	924
P-4	1 598
P-3	1 515
P-2/1	541
Subtotal	**5 077**
General Service	
Principal level	273
Other level	2 288
Subtotal	**2 561**
Other	
Security Service	306
Local level	1 902
Field Service	106
National Professional Officer	90

Category	*Number of posts*
Trades and Crafts	93
Subtotal	**2 497**
Expenditure sections total	**10 135**
Income section 3	
Professional and higher	
P-5	2
P-4	4
P-3	4
P-2/1	3
Subtotal	**13**
General Service	
Principal level	7
Other level	42
Subtotal	**49**
Other	
Security Service	2
Subtotal	**2**
Income section 3 total	**64**
Total	**10 199**

RESOLUTION 77/263

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/672, para. 68)

77/263. Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for 2023

The General Assembly,

I
Revised estimates on United Nations activities to mitigate global food insecurity and its humanitarian impact

Recalling its resolution 77/3 of 27 October 2022,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[85] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[86]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Approves* additional resource requirements in the amount of 10,566,000 United States dollars under the proposed programme budget for 2023, under section 12, Trade and development (2,137,400 dollars), section 27,

[85] A/77/576.

[86] A/77/7/Add.26.

Humanitarian assistance (7,735,400 dollars), and section 36, Staff assessment (693,200 dollars), to be offset by an equivalent increase of (693,200 dollars) under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

4. *Also approves* an appropriation in the amount of 9,872,800 dollars (net of staff assessment), which would represent a charge against the contingency fund, for the continuation of United Nations activities to mitigate global food insecurity and its humanitarian impact in 2023;

5. *Further approves an appropriation* in the amount of 693,200 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent increase of 693,200 dollars under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

II
Report on the use of the 2022 subvention and request for a subvention to the Special Tribunal for Lebanon for 2023

Recalling section IV of its resolution 75/253 B of 16 April 2021 and section XVII of its resolution 76/246 A of 24 December 2021,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[87] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[88]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

3. *Welcomes with appreciation* the provision of 49 per cent of the funding over the years and the continued support of the Government of Lebanon for the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, and acknowledges the commitment of the Government to the success of the Tribunal despite the exceptional circumstances it is facing, including an unprecedented socioeconomic and financial crisis, that have challenged its ability to maintain its financial support to the Tribunal;

4. *Expresses appreciation* to the donors for the Tribunal, requests the Secretary-General to intensify fundraising efforts, including by broadening the donor base, and encourages all Member States to provide voluntary support to the Tribunal for its activities in 2023;

5. *Underscores* the high priority accorded to the work of the Tribunal;

6. *Welcomes* the completion of the judicial mandate of the Tribunal and the commencement of its residual functions, and stresses the importance of preserving the Tribunal's archives in a secure and accessible manner to preserve the legacy of the Tribunal;

7. *Underscores* that the Special Tribunal for Lebanon is the first United Nations ad hoc Tribunal expected to close following the completion of residual functions by the end of 2023, and acknowledges the significant efforts made to reach this end, thus, no resources are expected for the Tribunal after 2023;

8. *Stresses* the importance of collating and sharing the lessons learned and best practices related to the experience of the Tribunal with relevant entities of the United Nations;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts taken by the Tribunal to reduce its costs and enhance its efficiency and the timeliness of its activities, to make greater use of the lessons learned and to adopt appropriate measures for achieving further operational savings and efficiencies, in order to ensure the expeditious completion and drawdown of the residual functions in 2023, in a transparent, accountable and cost-effective manner;

10. *Welcomes* the significant reduction in the Tribunal's budget requirements for 2023 compared with 2022;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide additional and detailed information on the final expenditures and unencumbered balance, as well as the return of that balance to Member States, in the context of the financial performance report on the programme budget for 2022 during the main part of the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly;

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[87] A/77/548 and A/77/548/Corr.1.

[88] A/77/7/Add.24.

12. *Appropriates* an amount of 2,968,000 dollars under section 8, Legal affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2023 by way of a subvention for the Tribunal, with the understanding that any additional voluntary contributions received would reduce the utilization of the funding provided by the United Nations, which would be reported in the context of the financial performance report on the programme budget for 2023;

III
Request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone

Recalling its resolution 58/284 of 8 April 2004, section VII of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004, section II of its resolution 59/294 of 22 June 2005, section XII of its resolution 65/259 of 24 December 2010, section IX of its resolution 66/247 of 24 December 2011, section I of its resolution 67/246 of 24 December 2012, section VII of its resolution 70/248 A of 23 December 2015, section III of its resolution 71/272 A of 23 December 2016, section VIII of its resolution 72/262 A of 24 December 2017, section III of its resolution 73/279 A of 22 December 2018, section VI of its resolution 74/263 of 27 December 2019, section XVI of its resolution 75/253 A of 31 December 2020 and section XI of its resolution 76/246 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the use of the commitment authority and request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone[89] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[90]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

3. *Reaffirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone;

4. *Welcomes* the in-kind multiform support provided by the Government of Sierra Leone to the Residual Special Court, including the provision of rent-free office space;

5. *Also welcomes* the support provided by several countries, including voluntary contributions, pro bono annual audit of the Residual Special Court and in-kind support in enforcing sentences, relocating witnesses, housing the archives of the Residual Special Court as well as prisoners of the Court, and hosting fundraising activities;

6. *Emphasizes* that the subvention from the regular budget is a bridging financing mechanism to supplement insufficient voluntary contributions, and encourages all Member States to provide voluntary support for the Residual Special Court;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to seek voluntary contributions, including through broadening the donor base and holding regular consultations with the key stakeholders, as well as to implement innovative fundraising approaches, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-eighth session;

8. *Appreciates* the efforts made by the Residual Special Court on cost efficiency measures, encourages the Court to continue its efforts aimed at identifying additional cost-efficiency and the relevant cost-savings measures to be applied in view of the persistent funding challenges, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in the context of his next report;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts to date of the Residual Special Court to digitize judicial records, notes that full digitization of all records remains incomplete, and encourages the Court to continue to work towards the completion of the full digitization of archives within the existing resources;

10. *Recalls* paragraph 28 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to seek alternative and sustainable financing arrangements for the Residual Special Court and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-eighth session;

11. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 2,765,000 dollars to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the Residual Special Court for the period from 1 January to

[89] A/77/352.

[90] A/77/7/Add.9.

31 December 2023, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of the commitment authority in the context of his next report;

IV
Request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Recalling section I of its resolution 68/247 B of 9 April 2014, section I of its resolution 69/274 A of 2 April 2015, section IV of its resolution 70/248 A, section II of its resolution 71/272 A, section IX of its resolution 72/262 A, section IV of its resolution 73/279 A, section V of its resolution 74/263, section XX of its resolution 75/253 A and section XII of its resolution 76/246 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the use of the commitment authority and request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia[91] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[92]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Reaffirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the sustained contributions of the Government of Cambodia, as the host country, for the Extraordinary Chambers;

5. *Recalls* paragraph 9 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and stresses the importance of maintaining and preserving the records of the Extraordinary Chambers in the three official languages of the Courts and making those documents easily accessible for the general public;

6. *Encourages* the Extraordinary Chambers to continue to adopt appropriate measures for achieving operational savings and efficiencies, and to properly complete the judicial mandate in a transparent, accountable, cost-effective and expeditious manner, with a view to a timely commencement of the residual phase;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and reaffirms that expenses of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers should be borne by voluntary contributions, further encourages all Member States to provide continuing and additional voluntary support for the Extraordinary Chambers, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his intensive efforts to obtain additional voluntary contributions, including by broadening the donor base;

8. *Encourages* all Member States to provide continuing and additional voluntary support for both the international and national components of the Extraordinary Chambers in support of the expeditious completion of the mandate of the Chambers;

9. *Welcomes with appreciation* the additional contribution by the Government of Germany to support the initial three years of the residual functions of the Extraordinary Chambers;

10. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding 3,809,900 dollars to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2023, so as to enable the Chambers to carry out its judicial mandate, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of the commitment authority in the context of the next report;

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[91] A/77/513.

[92] A/77/7/Add.17.

V
Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General[93] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee,[94]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee;

3. *Approves* the budgets in the amount of 766,193,900 dollars for the 39 continuing special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council, and an amount of 2,141,100 dollars for the share of special political missions in the budget of the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, for 2023, under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

VI
Strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva

Recalling part XI of its resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009, section VII of its resolution 66/247, section V of its resolution 68/247 A of 27 December 2013, sections III and VII of its resolution 69/262 of 29 December 2014, section X of its resolution 70/248 A, section XVIII of its resolution 71/272 A, section XVI of its resolution 72/262 A, section XIII of its resolution 73/279 A, section VII of its resolution 74/263, section IX of its resolution 75/253 A and section XVIII of its resolution 76/246 A,

Having considered the ninth annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva,[95] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the fourth report of the Board of Auditors on the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva[96] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[97]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

3. *Welcomes* the continued support of the Government of Switzerland for the construction project in Geneva;

4. *Stresses* the importance of close coordination between the strategic heritage plan project team and the Secretariat in New York, in particular the Global Asset Management Policy Service, to ensure success in all aspects of the project;

5. *Also stresses* the importance of effective governance, oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the project objectives are achieved on time and within budget;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the remaining recommendations of the Board of Auditors are implemented fully and expeditiously;

7. *Commends* the United Nations Office at Geneva for the efforts made towards eliminating barriers to persons with disabilities, encourages the Office to continue to pursue such efforts, and looks forward to receiving updates in this regard in future progress reports;

8. *Reiterates* its request to preserve the historical heritage of the Palais des Nations;

9. *Regrets* that the project started suffering delays and cost escalation even before the onset of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, resulting in successive delays in the overall project;

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[93] A/77/6 (Sect.3)/Add.1, A/77/6 (Sect.3)/Add.2, A/77/6 (Sect.3)/Add.3, A/77/6 (Sect.3)/Add.4, A/77/6 (Sect.3)/Add.5, A/77/6 (Sect.3)/Add.6, A/77/6 (Sect.3)/Add.7, A/77/6 (Sect.3)/Add.7/Corr.1 and A/77/6 (Sect.3)/Add.8.

[94] A/77/7/Add.1, A/77/7/Add.2, A/77/7/Add.3, A/77/7/Add.4, A/77/7/Add.5, A/77/7/Add.6, A/77/7/Add.19 and A/77/7/Add.25.

[95] A/77/492.

[96] A/77/94.

[97] A/77/7/Add.13.

10. *Notes with concern* that it is very unlikely that the full baseline project scope will be achieved within the approved maximum overall cost, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases through the application of sound project management practices and to ensure that the project is completed within the project scope and overall cost approved in its resolution 70/248 A;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that any change that affects the scope of the strategic heritage plan project is presented for the consideration and decision of the General Assembly;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases or schedule overruns, including tight cost control, regular and proactive review of risks, value engineering and cost-saving measures, in order to ensure that the cost of the project will not exceed the approved budget level, notes such measures undertaken to date, and looks forward to receiving further information in his next progress report;

13. *Reaffirms* the proposed project scope, schedule and estimated cost of the strategic heritage plan in the maximum amount of 836,500,000 Swiss francs;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue documenting best practices and lessons learned from capital construction projects, including value engineering, multistage request for proposals and the use of local materials and knowledge, and to consider their application, as appropriate, to ensure that the objectives of this project are achieved within the approved budget and timeline;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the procurement of goods and services for the construction project is carried out in strict compliance with the existing regulations, rules and relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions governing procurement in the United Nations;

16. *Recalls* the project's objective to lower the energy consumption of the Palais des Nations by at least 25 per cent compared with the 2010 baseline;

17. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that works of art, masterpieces and other gifts are handled appropriately during the design and renovation stages of the strategic heritage plan at the Palais des Nations, and also requests him to cooperate with those Member States that wish to take care of their gifts of works of art, masterpieces and other items;

18. *Also reiterates* its decision not to approve the installation of ventilation and cooling at the Palais des Nations in the strategic heritage plan project;

19. *Appreciates* the existing voluntary contributions received from Member States to finance the strategic heritage plan, and requests the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, as well as donations by private entities, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization and agreements related to donations for the strategic heritage plan, and to provide detailed information on this matter in the context of his next progress report;

20. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, in attracting voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, to give priority to those activities within the scope of the project;

21. *Decides* to continue to use the multi-year construction-in-progress account established within the regular budget for expenditures related to the strategic heritage plan in 2023;

22. *Also decides* to revert to the establishment of an assessment scheme and currency of appropriation and assessment for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of its seventy-eighth session, and requests the Secretary-General to provide updated detailed information on these issues;

23. *Further decides* to revert to the establishment of the multi-year special account for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of its seventy-eighth session;

24. *Decides* that the annual repayments of the loans to the host country will be funded under the regular budget until decided otherwise by the General Assembly;

25. *Reiterates* that all income from the rental or valorization of land owned by the Organization in Geneva will be reflected under income section 2, General income, of the programme budget;

26. *Recalls* section VII of its resolution 74/263, encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in maximizing the long-term generation of income through long-term, community-oriented leasing arrangements for United Nations-owned land in Geneva;

27. *Appropriates* the amount of 26,347,900 dollars (equivalent to 24,429,800 Swiss francs) for 2023, under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

VII
Financial performance report on the programme budget for 2021

Recalling its resolutions 72/266 A of 24 December 2017, 75/252, 75/253 A, 75/254 A to C and 75/255 of 31 December 2020, 75/253 B and 75/253 C of 30 June 2021, and section I of its resolution 76/246 A,

Having considered the financial performance report on the programme budget for 2021[98] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[99]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Notes* the performance report for 2021 that provides an adequate view of the implementation of the 2021 budget, and requests the Secretary-General to continue its further improvement;

4. *Recalls* paragraph 74 of the report of the Advisory Committee, decides to merge the reports of the Secretary-General on the transfers between sections and the financial performance report on the programme budget, and requests the Secretary-General to issue the merged report by the end of May following the submission of the financial statements as at 31 March, within existing resources;

5. *Also recalls* paragraph 33 of the report of the Advisory Committee, notes that the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations[100] should be adhered to and requests the Secretary-General to return the unobligated funds;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consult delegations on possible austerity measures that could have an impact on their work in the main organs of the United Nations and to make every effort to mitigate their impact;

7. *Takes note* of the final expenditure for 2021 in the amount of 3,017,890,800 dollars and the actual income for 2021 in the amount of 286,980,000 dollars;

8. *Approves* the return of a net surplus of 178,876,700 dollars in 2021 as a credit against assessments to Member States for 2023;

9. *Also approves* the return of the balance in the amount of 1,474,000 dollars of the special fund commitments of the programme budget for 2020, as well as the amount of 14,766,100 dollars from cost recovery by the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, as credits against assessments to Member States for 2023;

VIII
Addressing the deteriorating conditions and limited capacity of the conference services facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

Recalling its resolution 73/270 of 22 December 2018, section XIV of its resolution 74/263, section III of its resolution 75/253 B and section IV of its resolution 76/246 A,

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[98] A/77/347.

[99] A/77/7/Add.18.

[100] ST/SGB/2013/4 and ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[101] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[102]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Kenya for its continued support for the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and trusts that the Secretary-General will continue to engage with the host country to ensure the success of the project;

4. *Acknowledges* the need to address the deteriorating conditions and limited capacity of the conference services facilities at the United Nations Office in Nairobi and the urgent need to implement the project to address the situation, with a view to increasing its utilization and to bring the Office to a standard consistent with other United Nations headquarters;

5. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;

6. *Recalls* paragraph 19 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the Global Asset Management Policy Service is actively involved for proper oversight and governance in all aspects of the project and the incorporation of lessons learned from other major construction projects;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to proactively monitor and mitigate all project risks, to take all measures necessary to ensure the delivery of the project within the scope, budget and timeline approved by the General Assembly and to include in his next progress report an update on risk management and related mitigation measures;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue documenting best practices and lessons learned from capital construction projects, including value engineering, multistage request for proposals and the use of local materials and knowledge, and to consider their application, as appropriate, to ensure that the objectives of this project are achieved within the approved budget and timeline;

9. *Notes* that the commencement of the design phase will allow for voluntary contributions and other forms of support to be sought, which may potentially contribute to offsetting the overall cost of the project;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure conformity with relevant building codes and standards, as well as best practices for persons with disabilities, in the design, construction and renovation of the United Nations Office at Nairobi facilities;

11. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to provide updated information to the General Assembly in the next progress report on the projected number of in-person participants, as well as on the duration of conferences and other events, by those entities that have committed to or expressed interest in utilizing the United Nations Office at Nairobi conference facilities;

12. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to intensify the efforts being made by the United Nations Office at Nairobi to attract more United Nations intergovernmental meetings to its facilities, and reiterates the important role of the United Nations Office at Nairobi as a duty station of the United Nations and that the intergovernmental meetings shall be given priority in using the facilities;

13. *Recalls* its resolutions 56/242 of 24 December 2001 and 57/283 B of 15 April 2003, notes that observance of the headquarters rule will further increase the utilization rate of the conference facility in Nairobi, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to intensify the efforts being made by the United Nations Office at Nairobi in complying with the general principle established in the headquarters;

[101] A/77/367 and A/77/367/Corr.1.

[102] A/77/7/Add.15.

14. *Decides* to commission the design work for the conference services facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, on the basis of option B, without prejudice to any future decisions regarding the construction phase of the project;

15. *Takes note* of paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee, emphasizes that security services between the co-located blocks A to J and the conference services facilities projects should be coordinated in order to ensure a holistic approach to overall campus security matters, and decides to establish one Physical Security Officer (P-3) position;

16. *Decides* not to convert the Information Technology Officer (National Professional Officer) position to an Information Technology Officer (P-4) position;

17. *Recalls* paragraph 27 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and encourages the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to incorporate local knowledge, expertise and capacity, as appropriate, starting from the early stage of the project;

18. *Also recalls* paragraph 32 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and further requests the Secretary-General to continue to identify potential linkages and synergies between this project and the project for the replacement of blocks A to J;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to incorporate the envisaged renewable energy efficiency measures, wastewater treatment, solid waste management and water management into the project design, including lessons learned from other construction projects;

20. *Decides* to establish a multi-year construction in-progress account for the conference services facilities project at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

21. *Appropriates* an amount of 6,187,700 dollars for the project in 2023, comprising 2,298,400 dollars under section 29G, Administration, Nairobi, and 3,889,300 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

22. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to roll over the unspent balance from 2022, projected at approximately 930,900 dollars, into the multi-year construction-in-progress account;

IX
Progress in the renovation of Africa Hall at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

Recalling section III of its resolution 65/259, section VII of its resolution 66/247, section III of its resolution 68/247 A, section V of its resolution 69/262, section IX of its resolution 70/248 A, section V of its resolution 71/272 A, section XII of its resolution 72/262 A, section VIII of its resolution 73/279 A, section X of its resolution 74/263, section X of its resolution 75/253 A and section VIII of its resolution 76/246 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[103] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[104]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Ethiopia, as the host country, for its continued support for the project, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to engage with the host country, inter alia in protecting the environment, including the greening of the compound and public spaces in its vicinity;

4. *Appreciates* the contributions by the Governments of Mali and Ethiopia, recalls paragraph 5 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to engage with Member States to seek both voluntary and in-kind contributions, in full compliance with all relevant regulations and rules of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of his next progress report;

[103] A/77/339.

[104] A/77/7/Add.16.

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to engage with the member States of the African Union, as well as the African Union Commission, to mobilize voluntary contributions to support the project and the visitors' centre, taking into consideration that Africa Hall is the historical birthplace of the Organization of African Unity and the African heritage it represents;

6. *Recalls* paragraph 8 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to revisit the business case for the visitors' centre and provide revenue projections, justifications and an assessment of options to support future financial stability of the centre, while making sure that fees for services to the public are reasonable and affordable to a wide range of income groups and segments of society and that the centre contributes to the strengthening of awareness of the work of the United Nations;

7. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;

8. *Emphasizes* that the Global Asset Management Policy Service should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to engage with the Stakeholders Committee, the Advisory Board and the host country to improve coordination efforts in the implementation of the project;

9. *Also emphasizes* the need for the Office of Internal Oversight Services to continue to provide oversight on the renovation of Africa Hall, as appropriate, and to continue to include information on key findings;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue documenting best practices and lessons learned from capital construction projects, including value engineering, multistage request for proposals and the use of local materials and knowledge, and to consider their application, as appropriate, to ensure that the objectives of this project are achieved within the approved budget and timeline;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to include an update on the management of the main risks and the related mitigation measures, with a view to keeping the approved time frame of the project, to avoiding cost overruns and to ensuring the delivery of the project within the scope, budget and timeline, as approved by the General Assembly, and requests an update in the context of his next progress report;

12. *Commends* the Secretary-General for having standardized the reporting format of the United Nations capital construction projects, including an updated project management staffing table, a comparison of the top five project risks, and the project schedule both as a Gantt chart and in tabular form, and requests the Secretary-General to include a table showing the evolution of the project cost plan in future progress reports;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to conduct the necessary analysis to establish an energy efficiency baseline and provide a detailed update to the General Assembly in the context of the next progress report;

14. *Also recalls* paragraph 23 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to utilize local knowledge, materials, technology and capacity throughout the implementation of the construction and renovation projects at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, as appropriate;

15. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the continued commitment of the Secretary-General to ensuring the preservation of the historical and architectural integrity of Africa Hall, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General enhance efforts to engage key stakeholders in implementing the heritage conservation objective, to raise global awareness of the historic Africa Hall and the African heritage that it represents, and to cultivate partnerships with regional and international academic and research institutions, including universities and museums, specializing in African history and culture;

16. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General to ensure the conformity of Africa Hall and its visitors' centre with relevant building codes and standards, as well as best practices for persons with disabilities, encourages the Commission to continue to pursue such efforts, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an update on relevant progress made in his next report;

17. *Appropriates* a net amount of 6,244,000 dollars for project activities in 2023 comprising 3,100,900 dollars under section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, 2,811,200 dollars under section 33, Construction,

alteration, improvement and major maintenance, and 331,900 dollars under section 34, Safety and security, of the proposed programme budget for the year 2023, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

X
Progress on the renovation of the North Building at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago

Recalling section VII of its resolution 69/274 A, section VI of its resolution 70/248 B of 1 April 2016, section V of its resolution 72/262 A, section X of its resolution 73/279 A, section XI of its resolution 74/263, section XI of its resolution 75/253 A and section XVI of its resolution 76/246 A,

Having considered the progress report of the Secretary-General[105] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[106]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

3. *Acknowledges* the important role played by the host countries in facilitating the maintenance and construction of United Nations facilities, and stresses the value of continued collaboration with host countries in this regard;

4. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Chile, as the host country, for its continued efforts in supporting and facilitating the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

5. *Recalls* paragraph 5 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of his next progress report;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue documenting best practices and lessons learned from capital construction projects, including value engineering, multistage request for proposals and the use of local materials and knowledge, and to consider their application, as appropriate, to ensure that the objectives of this project are achieved within the approved budget and timeline;

7. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;

8. *Emphasizes* that the Global Asset Management Policy Service should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;

9. *Recalls* paragraph 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee, highlights the one-year project completion delay, and requests the Secretary-General to take all measures necessary in order to mitigate delays;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to closely monitor and mitigate all project risks and take all measures necessary to ensure the delivery of the project within the scope, budget and timeline, as approved by the General Assembly, and also requests the Secretary-General to include information on risk management and mitigation measures taken in his next progress report;

11. *Commends* the Secretary-General for having standardized the reporting format of the United Nations capital construction projects, including an updated project management staffing table, a comparison of the top five project risks, and the project schedule both as a Gantt chart and in tabular form, and requests the Secretary-General to include a table showing the evolution of the project cost plan in future progress reports;

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[105] A/77/315.

[106] A/77/7/Add.8.

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the project delivers renovation works that conform to relevant building codes and standards, including provisions for persons with disabilities concerning accessibility, technology and workplace safety;

13. *Notes with appreciation* that the project is progressing in accordance with its approved objectives in terms of seismic risk mitigation measures, energy efficiency and in compliance with health and safety regulations;

14. *Welcomes* the planned renovation of the North Building at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as a sustainable and energy-efficient building where the total amount of energy used by the building on an annual basis is equal to or less than the amount of renewable energy generated on site;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all activities promote cost-efficiency and transparency, are implemented within existing resources and in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework, including the Financial Regulations and Rules, while maintaining full accountability to the General Assembly;

16. *Approves* the continuation of the temporary position of Procurement Officer (P-3) for the period from January to April 2023;

17. *Appropriates* an amount of 640,400 dollars for the project in 2023, comprising 24,800 dollars under section 21, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 615,600 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the proposed programme budget for 2023, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

XI
Seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok

Recalling section XII of its resolution 70/248 A, section IV of its resolution 71/272 A, section XIII of its resolution 72/262 A, section VII of its resolution 73/279 A, section XII of its resolution 74/263, section XII of its resolution 75/253 A and section VII of its resolution 76/246 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[107] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[108]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Thailand, as the host country, for its continued efforts in supporting and facilitating the work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, including through voluntary contributions and transfer of local knowledge and expertise towards the execution of the project;

4. *Welcomes* the positive steps taken towards engaging with the host country, and encourages the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to continue to engage with the host country in this regard;

5. *Also welcomes* the groundbreaking ceremony to formally inaugurate the construction works in November 2021 and that the works are currently progressing well, with construction estimated to be completed within the budget and schedule approved by the General Assembly;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of his next progress report;

7. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;

8. *Commends* the efforts of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in its commitment to the project, despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and appreciates the advice of the host Government

[107] A/77/330.

[108] A/77/7/Add.12.

authorities on specific measures to ensure compliance with local health and safety regulations and mitigate related risks;

9. *Emphasizes* that the Global Asset Management Policy Service should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;

10. *Commends* the measures adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to reduce the project costs through value engineering, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to pursue efficiencies, where possible, to ensure that the project is completed within the budget, scope and timeline approved by the General Assembly;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take into account lessons learned and best practices from past construction and renovation projects and, in particular, to draw from experience and knowledge acquired from other capital projects, to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within budget and in a timely manner, and also requests the Secretary-General to provide an update on measures considered and applied in this regard in his next progress report;

12. *Recalls* paragraph 8 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to proactively monitor and mitigate all project risks, to take all measures necessary to ensure the delivery of the project within the scope, budget and timeline approved by the General Assembly and to include in his next progress report an update on risk management and related mitigation measures;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to actively manage the owner-directed changes and reiterates that any additional project costs resulting from late-stage changes initiated by tenants, which may result in potential claims, should be borne by the respective tenant, not by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

14. *Notes* the efforts by the Secretary-General to consolidate the office furniture requirements for the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Africa in a single solicitation exercise to achieve economies of scale;

15. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General to ensure that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific building is compliant with relevant building standards and best practices for persons with disabilities, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an update on relevant progress made in his next report;

16. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to include local knowledge, technology, capacity and the use of locally sourced and manufactured materials, as well as local labour and expertise, throughout the implementation of the construction project;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue documenting best practices and lessons learned from capital construction projects, including value engineering, multistage request for proposals and the use of local materials and knowledge, and to consider their application, as appropriate, to ensure that the objectives of this project are achieved within the approved budget and timeline;

18 *Appropriates* an amount of 10,902,400 dollars for 2023, comprising 556,500 dollars under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, and 10,345,900 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

XII
Progress on the replacement of office blocks A to J at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

Recalling section XIV of its resolution 72/262 A, section IX of its resolution 73/279 A, section XIII of its resolution 74/263, section XIV of its resolution 75/253 A and section XV of its resolution 76/246 A,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[109] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[110]

[109] A/77/349 and A/77/349/Corr.1.

[110] A/77/7/Add.14.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Kenya for its continued support for the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and trusts that the Secretary-General will continue to engage with the host country to ensure the success of the project;

4. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide an update in the context of his next progress report;

5. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue documenting best practices and lessons learned from capital construction projects, including value engineering, multistage request for proposals and the use of local materials and knowledge, and to consider their application, as appropriate, to ensure that the objectives of this project are achieved within the approved budget and timeline;

7. *Emphasizes* that the Global Asset Management Policy Service should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to identify any potential synergies between this project and the United Nations Office at Nairobi conference facilities project, and requests him to provide further information in the context of his next report;

9. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort in implementing measures against slippages in the timeline of the project and to mitigate their potential impact on project costs and completion time;

10. *Recalls* paragraph 40 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and reiterates the importance of ensuring the use of locally sourced and manufactured materials, as well as local labour and expertise, and looks forward to updates thereon in future progress reports;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all activities promote cost-efficiency and transparency, are implemented within existing resources and in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework, including the Financial Regulations and Rules, while maintaining full accountability to the General Assembly;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to incorporate the envisaged renewable energy efficiency measures, wastewater treatment, solid waste management and water management into the design and construction of the United Nations Office at Nairobi project on office blocks A to J, including lessons learned from other construction projects;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure conformity with relevant building codes and standards, as well as best practices for persons with disabilities, in the project to replace blocks A to J at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an update on relevant progress made in his next report;

14. *Commends* the Secretary-General for having standardized the reporting format of the United Nations capital construction projects, including an updated project management staffing table, a comparison of the top five project risks, and the project schedule both as a Gantt chart and in tabular form, and requests the Secretary-General to include a table showing the evolution of the project cost plan in future progress reports;

15. *Approves* the reassignment of a position of Engineer (National Officer) to a position of Administrative Officer (National Officer) under section 29G, Administration, Nairobi, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

16. *Also approves* the continuation of a position of Safety and Security Project Officer (P-3) from January 2023 until project completion under section 34, Safety and security, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

17. *Appropriates* an amount of 13,196,200 dollars, comprising (a) 1,214,800 dollars under section 29G, Administration, Nairobi; (b) 11,748,100 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance; and (c) 233,300 dollars under section 34, Safety and security, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

XIII
Revised estimates resulting from the establishment of the United Nations Youth Office

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[111] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[112]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

3. *Approves* additional appropriations, representing a charge against the contingency fund, for 2023 in the amount of 2,274,400 dollars, comprising 2,214,100 dollars under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, 33,100 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and 27,200 dollars under section 29B, Department of Operational Support, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

4. *Also approves* the establishment of 16 posts (1 Assistant Secretary-General, 1 D-1, 2 P-5, 5 P-3, 6 P-2, 1 General Service (Other level)) under the United Nations Youth Office;

5. *Further approves* an additional appropriation in the amount of 185,800 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2023, to be offset by an equivalent increase under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

XIV
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its forty-ninth, fiftieth and fifty-first regular sessions, and at its thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth special sessions, in 2022

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General[113] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[114]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Approves* the establishment, effective 1 January 2023, of 17 posts under section 24, Human rights, and 1 post under section 28, Global communications, of the proposed programme budget for 2023, to support the activities mandated by the Council in its resolution 51/30 of 7 October 2022[115] and its decision 51/101 of 6 October 2022;[116]

4. *Appropriates* an additional amount of 55,925,000 dollars, comprising 3,735,600 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 51,636,100 dollars under section 24, Human rights, 455,700 dollars under section 28, Global communications, 31,800 dollars under section 29E, Administration, Geneva, and 65,800 dollars under section 34, Safety and security, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

5. *Also appropriates* an amount of 6,773,900 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2023, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

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[111] A/77/541 and A/77/541/Corr.1.

[112] A/77/605.

[113] A/77/579 and A/77/579/Add.1.

[114] A/77/7/Add.27.

[115] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/77/53/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

[116] Ibid., sect. B.

XV
International Trade Centre

1. *Approves* resources in the amount of 20,457,600 dollars (the United Nations share equivalent to 50 per cent of 37,936,500 Swiss francs at the exchange rate of 0.9272 Swiss francs to 1 dollar) proposed for 2023 under section 13, International Trade Centre, of the proposed programme budget for 2023;

XVI
Programme budget implications arising from recommendations and decisions contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2022

Having considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly[117] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[118]

1. *Recalls* its resolution 77/256 B of 30 December 2022;

2. *Takes note* of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General;

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

XVII
Gross jointly financed budget of the Joint Inspection Unit

Approves the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for 2023 in the amount of 8,378,700 dollars;

XVIII
Gross jointly financed budget of the International Civil Service Commission

Approves the gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for 2023 in the amount of 12,244,500 dollars;

XIX
Gross jointly financed budget of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

Notes the gross budget for the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2023 in the amount of 4,047,500 dollars;

XX
Gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security

Approves the gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat for 2023 in the amount of 165,190,900 dollars, broken down as follows:

(a) Field Security Operations: 149,055,100 dollars;

(b) Security and Safety Services at the United Nations Office at Vienna: 16,135,800 dollars;

XXI
Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from changes in rates of exchange and inflation[119] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[120]

Takes note of the revised estimates arising from recosting owing to changes in the rates of exchange and inflation;

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[117] A/C.5/77/4.

[118] A/77/7/Add.11.

[119] A/77/632.

[120] A/77/7/Add.38.

XXII
Contingency fund

1. *Recalls* its resolution 76/246 A, in which the level of the contingency fund for the year 2023 was set at 0.75 per cent of the approved programme budget for 2022, or 24,219,700 dollars;

2. *Notes* that, after a charge of 22,595,200 dollars, a balance of 1,624,500 dollars remains in the contingency fund for 2023;

3. *Decides* that the contingency fund for the year 2024 shall be set at the level of 0.75 per cent of the approved programme budget for 2023.

RESOLUTIONS 77/264 A–C

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/672, para. 68)

77/264. Programme budget for 2023

A
Budget appropriations for 2023

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for 2023:

1. Appropriations totalling 3,396,308,300 United States dollars are hereby approved for the following purposes:

Section		*Amount (United States dollars)*
	Part I. *Overall policymaking, direction and coordination*	
1	Overall policymaking, direction and coordination	86 769 400
2	General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	348 510 900
	Subtotal, part I	**435 280 300**
	Part II. *Political affairs*	
3	Political affairs	839 094 400
4	Disarmament	13 835 800
5	Peacekeeping operations	52 878 300
6	Peaceful uses of outer space	4 757 800
	Subtotal, part II	**910 566 300**
	Part III. *International justice and law*	
7	International Court of Justice	29 110 900
8	Legal affairs	63 806 700
	Subtotal, part III	**92 917 600**
	Part IV. *International cooperation for development*	
9	Economic and social affairs	87 128 800
10	Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	8 633 800
11	United Nations system support for the African Union's Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want	8 695 200
12	Trade and development	79 372 300

Section		*Amount (United States dollars)*
13	International Trade Centre	20 457 600
14	Environment	21 033 600
15	Human settlements	13 385 100
16	International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	23 110 500
17	UN-Women	10 614 400
	Subtotal, part IV	**272 431 300**
	Part V. *Regional cooperation for development*	
18	Economic and social development in Africa	88 119 800
19	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	55 138 700
20	Economic development in Europe	37 229 400
21	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	58 741 200
22	Economic and social development in Western Asia	48 931 500
23	Regular programme of technical cooperation	43 374 500
	Subtotal, part V	**331 535 100**
	Part VI. *Human rights and humanitarian affairs*	
24	Human rights	176 186 300
25	International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees	44 633 900
26	Palestine refugees	39 704 000
27	Humanitarian assistance	27 125 400
	Subtotal, part VI	**287 649 600**
	Part VII. *Global communications*	
28	Global communications	101 807 000
	Subtotal, part VII	**101 807 000**
	Part VIII. *Common support services*	
29A	Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance	60 885 200
29B	Department of Operational Support	96 878 000
29C	Office of Information and Communications Technology	53 425 900
29E	Administration, Geneva	77 706 400
29F	Administration, Vienna	19 940 600
29G	Administration, Nairobi	19 014 600
	Subtotal, part VIII	**327 850 700**
	Part IX. *Internal oversight*	
30	Internal oversight	22 134 600
	Subtotal, part IX	**22 134 600**
	Part X. *Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*	
31	Jointly financed administrative activities	8 214 300
32	Special expenses	87 688 000
	Subtotal, part X	**95 902 300**

Section		*Amount (United States dollars)*
	Part XI. *Capital expenditures*	
33	Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	85 471 000
	Subtotal, part XI	**85 471 000**
	Part XII. *Safety and security*	
34	Safety and security	126 952 700
	Subtotal, part XII	**126 952 700**
	Part XIII. *Development Account*	
35	Development Account	16 491 300
	Subtotal, part XIII	**16 491 300**
	Part XIV. *Staff assessment*	
36	Staff assessment	289 318 500
	Subtotal, part XIV	**289 318 500**
	Total	**3 396 308 300**

2. In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 75,000 dollars is appropriated for 2023 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations in Geneva as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B
Income estimates for 2023

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for 2023:

1. Estimates of income totalling 321,949,500 United States dollars are approved as follows:

Income section		*Amount (United States dollars)*
1.	Income from staff assessment	291 354 800
2.	General income	30 197 000
3.	Services to the public	397 700
	Total	**321 949 500**

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, the sale of statistical products, catering operations and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications not provided for under the budget appropriations shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

C
Financing of appropriations for the year 2023

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for 2023:

1. Budget appropriations totalling 3,443,427,800 United States dollars, consisting of 3,396,308,300 dollars approved for 2023 by the General Assembly in paragraph 1 of resolution A above, and 47,119,500 dollars in additional appropriations for 2022, as approved by the Assembly in its resolution 76/246 B of 13 April 2022, its decision 76/564 of 23 May 2022 and its resolution 76/271 of 29 June 2022, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 3.1 and 3.2 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,[121] as follows:

(a) 30,594,700 dollars, representing the estimated income other than staff assessment income approved for 2023 under resolution B above;

(b) 195,116,800 dollars, as reflected in the financial performance report on the programme budget for 2021,[122] approved by the Assembly in section VII of its resolution 77/263 of 30 December 2022;

(c) 3,217,716,300 dollars, representing the assessment on Member States in accordance with Assembly resolution 76/238 of 24 December 2021 on the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund totalling 292,390,400 dollars, consisting of 291,354,800 dollars related to the appropriations for 2023 and 1,035,600 dollars related to the additional appropriations for 2022, as approved by the Assembly in its resolution 76/246 B, its decision 76/564 and its resolution 76/271.

RESOLUTION 77/265

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/672, para. 68)

77/265. Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for 2023

The General Assembly

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations[123] and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments in the year 2023 to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising either during or subsequent to the year, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(a) Such commitments not exceeding a total of 8 million United States dollars as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(b) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

(i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the International Court of Justice, Article 31), not exceeding a total of 100,000 dollars;

(ii) The calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50) and the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), not exceeding a total of 25,000 dollars;

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[121] ST/SGB/2013/4 and ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1.

[122] A/77/347.

[123] ST/SGB/2013/4 and ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1.

(iii) The maintenance in office for the completion of cases of judges who have not been re-elected (Statute, Article 13, paragraph 3), not exceeding a total of 20,000 dollars;

(iv) The payment of pensions and travel and removal expenses of retiring judges and travel and removal expenses and installation grants of members of the Court (Statute, Article 32, paragraph 7), not exceeding a total of 205,000 dollars;

(v) The work of the Court or its Chambers away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of 12,500 dollars;

(c) Such commitments not exceeding a total of 500,000 dollars in the year 2023 as the Secretary-General certifies are required for security measures pursuant to section XI, paragraph 6, of General Assembly resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004;

2. *Resolves* that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee and to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. *Decides* that, for the year 2023, if a decision of the Security Council results in the need for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security in an amount exceeding 10 million dollars in respect of the decision, that matter shall be brought to the General Assembly, or, if the Assembly is suspended or not in session, a resumed or special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

RESOLUTION 77/266

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/672, para. 68)

77/266. Working Capital Fund for 2023

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for 2023 in the amount of 250 million United States dollars;

2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund amounting to 150 million dollars in accordance with the scale of assessments adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Member States to the budget for 2023, and the remaining 100 million dollars shall be financed from the unspent funds of the 2021 regular budget, on an exceptional basis and without setting a precedent, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 76/272 of 29 June 2022;

3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:

(a) Credits to Member States resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from the surplus account to the Working Capital Fund in an adjusted amount of 1,025,092 dollars;

(b) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for 2022 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 76/249 of 24 December 2021;

4. Should the credits and advances paid by any Member State to the Working Capital Fund for 2022 exceed the amount of that Member State's advance under the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by the Member State in respect of 2023;

5. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(a) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for that purpose;

(b) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments that may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 77/265 of 30 December 2022 relating to

unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for 2023; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(c) Such sums as may be necessary to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities, which, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed 200,000 dollars; advances in excess of 200,000 dollars may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(d) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the year in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each year, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each year;

(e) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

6. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in 2023, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.

RESOLUTION 77/267

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/673, para. 10)

77/267. Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations: review of changes to the budgetary cycle

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 72/266 A of 24 December 2017,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations: review of changes to the budgetary cycle"[124] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[125]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. *Recalls* paragraphs 6 and 7 of its resolution 72/266 A, in which it approved the change from a biennial to an annual budget period on a trial basis, decides to lift the trial period effective from 2023, and requests the Secretary-General to continue with the submission of the programme budget according to an annual cycle;

4. *Notes* that the change from the biennial to the annual budget period on a trial basis was not cost-neutral, and also notes the lack of an activity-based costing system to account for the workload and associated costs of preparing programme budget documentation;

5. *Recalls* paragraphs 19, 28 and 38 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to conduct a comprehensive review on the annual cycle, including its financial, administrative and procedural impact, its impact on the implementation of mandates across sections of the programme budget and the workload and the associated costs, and to submit a report for consideration by the General Assembly at the main part of its eighty-third session, in 2028;

[124] A/77/485 and A/77/485/Corr.1.

[125] A/77/7/Add.20.

6. *Also recalls* regulation 3.2, paragraphs 4 and 5, of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[126] reaffirms that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and stresses the importance that the Fifth Committee make decisions on the programme budget in a timely manner;

7. *Reaffirms* that no changes to the budget methodology, established budgetary procedures and practices or the financial regulations may be implemented without prior review and approval by the General Assembly in accordance with established budgetary procedures;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to present any proposed changes to the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations[127] and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation for the consideration of the General Assembly;

9. *Also recalls* its resolution 58/250 of 23 December 2003, reaffirms that there should be no exceptions to the rule that documents must be distributed in all official languages, emphasizes the principle that all official documents must be distributed simultaneously in all official languages before they are made available on United Nations websites, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that documents are available in accordance with the six-week rule for their distribution simultaneously in the six official languages;

10. *Reaffirms* that parts I and II of the proposed programme budget shall be submitted through the Committee for Programme and Coordination and part III through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the General Assembly;

11. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination, as well as in verifying that the programmes of activities of the Organization are implemented in line with the legislative mandates and that the full implementation of regulations and rules is ensured;

12. *Recommends* that the Committee for Programme and Coordination, in accordance with its mandate, provide recommendations on all programmes of the proposed programme budget;

13. *Recalls* that the Committee for Programme and Coordination shall consider the proposed programme plans in accordance with its terms of reference, and appreciates the continuous efforts of the Committee to reach consensus on all programmes of the proposed programme budget;

14. *Decides* to extend the length of sessions of the Committee for Programme and Coordination to five weeks, starting from the sixty-third session of the Committee;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 12 of its resolution 31/93 of 14 December 1976, and continues to encourage Member States to be represented at a high level of expertise and to ensure the continuity of their representation in the Committee for Programme and Coordination, whose central role and overall responsibilities are recognized;

16. *Also recalls* paragraph 22 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and reiterates that the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee should examine the proposed programme budget in accordance with their respective mandates and, preserving the sequential nature of the review processes, submit their conclusions and recommendations to the General Assembly for the final approval of the programme budget;

17. *Decides* that the sessions of the Committee for Programme and Coordination shall end no later than mid-June to ensure more time for substantial deliberation of the programmes and consultation with relevant United Nations bodies, starting from the sixty-fourth session of the Committee, in 2024;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assess a procedure to inform the Advisory Committee of possible resource implications that may result from the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination,

[126] ST/SGB/2018/3.

[127] ST/SGB/2013/4 and ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1.

for the consideration of the General Assembly, to address the sequential nature of the review process under the annual cycle;

19. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

20. *Reiterates* that whenever the Committee for Programme and Coordination cannot provide conclusions and recommendations on a given subprogramme or programme of the proposed programme budget, the plenary or the relevant Main Committee or Main Committees of the General Assembly responsible for those mandates will consider the said subprogramme or programme at the very start of its session in order to provide any conclusions and recommendations to the Fifth Committee, at the earliest opportunity, and no later than four weeks after the start of the session, for timely consideration by the Fifth Committee;

21. *Decides* that the Fifth Committee will consider the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at the earliest opportunity during the main part of the sessions of the General Assembly, under the agenda item entitled "Programme planning", and no later than the first week of November;

22. *Recognizes* the efforts of the President of the General Assembly and the Chair of the Fifth Committee in following up with the Chairs of the relevant Main Committees on the consideration of the programmes without recommendations from the Committee for Programme and Coordination, in accordance with paragraph 16 of its resolution 76/236 of 24 December 2021, and decides that incoming Presidents of the General Assembly and Chairs of the Fifth Committee shall reach out to and support the Chairs of the Main Committees to ensure that conclusions and recommendations are issued on time;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all the Main Committees have access on their Committee Places of the e-deleGATE portal, for information purposes, before the start of the session, to the programmes of the proposed programme budget and the latest report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

24. *Decides* to extend the length of the first resumed session of the Fifth Committee to five weeks, starting from its seventy-eighth session;

25. *Notes* the increased workload on the Fifth Committee, the Committee for Programme and Coordination, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Secretariat;

26. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that results and, where possible, performance measures actually reflect achievements and impacts in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States;

27. *Recalls* paragraphs 33 and 46 of the report of the Advisory Committee, stresses that accountability is a central principle of management reform, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure a strong culture of responsibility and accountability, compliance with regulations and rules, and the achievement of results;

28. *Expresses its support* for the efforts of the Secretariat to better engage and support programme managers with the aim of making the Organization more effective and results-oriented, and welcomes the commitment and ongoing efforts of the Secretariat to improve and update the programmatic aspects, including planned results, performance measures and external factors, of the programme budget;

29. *Stresses* that effective and efficient mandate delivery is the overriding factor in determining the Secretariat's resource requirements;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure effective and efficient utilization of available resources and programme delivery by programme managers, including through clearly defined results-based performance indicators and benchmarks;

31. *Notes with appreciation* the cumulative improvements to the presentation format of the proposed programme budget resulting from the implementation of the guidance from the General Assembly during the annual budget trial period, and welcomes the submission of the proposed programme plan and programme performance alongside the proposed post and non-post resource requirements in a single document;

32. *Recalls* paragraph 45 of the report of the Advisory Committee, reaffirms the programmatic nature of the United Nations budget, and requests the Secretary-General to preserve the optimal functioning of all programmes by improving the presentation of and the link between proposed resources and programme delivery.

VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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RESOLUTION 77/97

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/411, para. 10)[1]

77/97. Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/83 of 12 December 2001, the annex to which contains the text of the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts, recalling also the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-third session,[2] and recalling further its resolutions 59/35 of 2 December 2004, 62/61 of 6 December 2007, 65/19 of 6 December 2010, 68/104 of 16 December 2013, 71/133 of 13 December 2016 and 74/180 of 18 December 2019 commending the articles to the attention of Governments,

Noting that the International Law Commission decided to recommend that the General Assembly take note of the draft articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts in a resolution and annex the draft articles to that resolution, and consider at a later stage, in the light of the importance of the topic, the possibility of convening an international conference of plenipotentiaries to examine the draft articles with a view to concluding a convention on the topic,

Acknowledging that 12 December 2021 marked the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of its resolution 56/83, the annex to which contains the text of the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts, which were taken note of and commended to the attention of Governments without prejudice to the question of their future adoption or other appropriate action,

Acknowledging also, in this regard, the constructive dialogue in the context of successive working groups of the Sixth Committee on the question of a convention on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts or other appropriate action on the basis of the articles, and all views expressed thereon,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the subject of responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts is of major importance in relations between States,

Noting with appreciation the compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles, prepared by the Secretary-General,[3]

Noting the discussion on whether Member States should examine all procedural options regarding possible action on the basis of the articles,

Noting also the informal substantive dialogue among Member States during the period between the seventy-first and seventy-seventh sessions of the General Assembly,

1. *Continues to acknowledge* the importance and usefulness of the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts,[4] and commends them once again to the attention of Governments, without prejudice to the question of their future adoption or other appropriate action;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Governments to submit further written comments on any future action regarding the articles;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Brazil on behalf of the Bureau.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (A/56/10 and A/56/10/Corr.1).

[3] See A/62/62, A/62/62/Corr.1, A/62/62/Add.1, A/65/76, A/68/72, A/71/80, A/71/80/Add.1, A/74/83 and A/77/74.

[4] Resolution 56/83, annex.

3. *Takes note* of the comments and observations of Governments[5] and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee, at the fifty-sixth, fifty-ninth, sixty-second, sixty-fifth, sixty-eighth, seventy-first, seventy-fourth and seventy-seventh sessions of the General Assembly, on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts;

4. *Acknowledges* that a growing number of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies refer to the articles;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update the technical report listing, in a tabular format, the references to the articles contained in the compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles prepared since 2001, and further requests the Secretary-General to submit such material during its eightieth session;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide the General Assembly, at its eightieth session, with a report on all procedural options based on precedents regarding action taken on other products of the International Law Commission, without prejudice to the question of whether such possible action is appropriate, and takes note of the discussions on procedural precedents for action on International Law Commission products and all views, comments and concerns expressed thereon;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to update the compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles and to invite Governments to submit information on their practice in this regard, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit such material well in advance of its eightieth session;

8. *Acknowledges* the constructive dialogue in the context of the working group of the Sixth Committee during the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, and encourages all Member States to continue the substantive dialogue on an informal basis during the period prior to the eightieth session of the Assembly, including on the basis of the information that will be provided in advance by the Secretary-General at the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly, regarding the report requested in paragraph 6 of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session the item entitled "Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts" and to further examine, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee and with a view to taking a decision, the question of a convention on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts or other appropriate action on the basis of the articles.

RESOLUTION 77/98

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/412, para. 10)[6]

77/98. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/281 of 29 March 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations that the Secretary-General make available to the United Nations membership a comprehensive report on the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations,[7]

Recalling also that the Secretary-General, on 24 March 2005, transmitted to the President of the General Assembly a report of his Adviser concerning sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping personnel,[8]

Recalling further its resolution 59/300 of 22 June 2005, in which it endorsed the recommendation of the Special Committee that a group of legal experts be established to provide advice on the best way to proceed so as to ensure that the original intent of the Charter of the United Nations can be achieved, namely, that United Nations staff and

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[5] See A/62/63, A/62/63/Add.1, A/65/96, A/65/96/Add.1, A/68/69, A/68/69/Add.1, A/71/79, A/74/156 and A/77/198.

[6] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Bangladesh on behalf of the Bureau.

[7] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part one, chap. III, sect. D, para. 56.

[8] See A/59/710.

experts on mission would never be effectively exempt from the consequences of criminal acts committed at their duty station, nor unjustly penalized, without due process,[9]

Underlining the importance of a zero-tolerance policy for misconduct and the commission of crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of United Nations officials and experts on mission towards the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Honouring the heroic work of tens of thousands of United Nations officials and experts on mission, underscoring that the United Nations should not let the actions of a few tarnish the achievements of the whole, and commending the Member States that have taken steps to prevent, investigate and hold accountable their personnel for criminal conduct, such as that involving sexual exploitation and abuse,

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law,

Reaffirming also that the present resolution is without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of United Nations officials and experts on mission and the United Nations under international law,

Reaffirming further the obligation of United Nations officials and experts on mission to respect the national laws of the host State, as well as the right of the host State to exercise, where applicable, its criminal jurisdiction, in accordance with the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing operations of United Nations missions,

Underlining the importance of appropriate training of United Nations officials and experts on mission to prevent any criminal conduct,

Deeply concerned by reports of criminal conduct, and conscious that such conduct, if not investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted, would create the negative impression that United Nations officials and experts on mission operate with impunity,

Reaffirming the need to ensure that all United Nations officials and experts on mission function in a manner that preserves the image, credibility, impartiality and integrity of the United Nations,

Emphasizing that crimes committed by such persons are unacceptable and have a detrimental effect on the fulfilment of the mandate of the United Nations, in particular with respect to the relations between the United Nations and the local population in the host country,

Conscious of the critical importance of providing expeditious support and protecting the rights of victims of criminal conduct perpetrated by United Nations officials and experts on mission, in particular through voluntary contributions to the trust fund in support of victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as of ensuring adequate protection for witnesses, and recalling the adoption of its resolution 62/214 of 21 December 2007 on the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel, as well as of its resolution 71/297 of 30 June 2017 on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse,

Emphasizing that genuine accountability rests on the cooperation of the Member States,

Emphasizing also the need to enhance international cooperation to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Taking note of the report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations on uniting our strengths for peace: politics, partnership and people,[10] and of the subsequent report of the Secretary-General entitled "The future of United Nations peace operations: implementation of the recommendations of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations",[11]

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[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 19* (A/59/19/Rev.1), part two, chap. II, sect. N, para. 40 (a).

[10] See A/70/95-S/2015/446.

[11] A/70/357-S/2015/682.

Taking note also of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on fraud prevention, detection and response in United Nations system organizations,[12] the Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption Framework of the United Nations Secretariat of September 2016[13] and the report of the Secretary-General on his practice in disciplinary matters and cases of possible criminal behaviour from 1 January to 31 December 2020,[14]

Recalling its resolution 61/29 of 4 December 2006, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Having considered at its previous sessions the report of the Group of Legal Experts established by the Secretary-General pursuant to its resolution 59/300[15] and the reports of the Ad Hoc Committee,[16] as well as the note by the Secretariat[17] and the reports of the Secretary-General[18] on criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission,

Recalling its resolutions 62/63 of 6 December 2007, 63/119 of 11 December 2008, 64/110 of 16 December 2009, 65/20 of 6 December 2010, 66/93 of 9 December 2011, 67/88 of 14 December 2012, 68/105 of 16 December 2013, 69/114 of 10 December 2014, 70/114 of 14 December 2015, 71/134 of 13 December 2016, 72/112 of 7 December 2017, 73/196 of 20 December 2018, 74/181 of 18 December 2019, 75/132 of 15 December 2020 and 76/106 of 9 December 2021,

Noting the oral report of the Chair of the working group of the Sixth Committee,[19]

Convinced of the continuing need for the United Nations and its Member States to urgently take strong and effective steps to ensure the criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission in the interest of justice,

Emphasizing that the development of harmonized United Nations standards of investigation of crimes allegedly committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission can be critical to strengthening the United Nations system of accountability,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General,[20] in particular annexes I and II to the report submitted pursuant to paragraphs 31 and 32 of its resolution 76/106,[21] which provide additional information on the nature of the allegations and information received from States on all referrals since 1 July 2007 and notifications received from States with respect to investigations or prosecutions of crimes allegedly committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission since 1 July 2016;

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse,[22] and recalls all of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse and on the United Nations action on sexual exploitation and abuse, as well as the findings of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat in its evaluation report of 22 March 2021;[23]

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[12] A/71/731.

[13] ST/IC/2016/25, annex.

[14] A/76/602.

[15] See A/60/980.

[16] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 54* (A/62/54); and ibid., *Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 54* (A/63/54).

[17] A/62/329.

[18] A/63/260, A/63/260/Add.1, A/64/183, A/64/183/Add.1, A/65/185, A/66/174, A/66/174/Add.1, A/67/213, A/68/173, A/69/210, A/70/208, A/72/121, A/72/126, A/72/205, A/73/128, A/73/129, A/73/155, A/74/142, A/74/145, A/75/217, A/75/228, A/76/205 and A/76/208.

[19] See A/C.6/77/SR.35.

[20] A/77/225 and A/77/237.

[21] A/77/225.

[22] A/76/702.

[23] A/75/820, entitled "Evaluation of the prevention, response and victim support efforts against sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations Secretariat staff and related personnel".

3. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Secretary-General to refer credible allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse to the Member State of the United Nations officials or experts on mission for appropriate action;

4. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Coordinator on Improving the United Nations Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, and requests the Secretary-General to regularly update Member States on progress with respect to the implementation of the mandate of the Special Coordinator;

5. *Expresses its concern* with respect to all alleged crimes on the part of United Nations officials and experts on mission, including allegations of fraud, corruption and other financial crimes, and in that regard welcomes the reaffirmation by the Secretary-General that there will be no tolerance for any corruption at the United Nations;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that his zero-tolerance policy for criminal activities, such as sexual exploitation and abuse, fraud and corruption, is made known to all United Nations officials and experts on mission at all levels, especially those in managerial positions, and is fully implemented in a coherent and coordinated manner throughout the United Nations, including funds and programmes, and calls upon all entities in the United Nations to inform and to cooperate fully with the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in all cases involving allegations that a crime may have been committed by a United Nations official or expert on mission;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure greater quality and consistency in investigations by investigative entities of the Organization through the development of harmonized standards of investigation, including verification of allegations and information received;

8. *Expresses its concern* with respect to the low rate of response from States to referred allegations and to requests for information on their provisions addressing the establishment of jurisdiction over crimes, as urged in its resolution 76/106, and in particular expresses its deep concern with regard to the significant number of instances where States to which allegations have been referred have failed to advise the United Nations of any steps taken in response to such referrals, and also with regard to the failure to acknowledge such referrals;

9. *Strongly urges* States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that crimes by United Nations officials and experts on mission do not go unpunished and that the perpetrators of such crimes are brought to justice, without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of such persons and the United Nations under international law, and in accordance with international human rights standards, including due process;

10. *Strongly urges* all States to consider establishing, to the extent that they have not yet done so, jurisdiction over crimes, particularly those of a serious nature, as known in their existing national criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, at least where the conduct as defined in the law of the State establishing jurisdiction also constitutes a crime under the laws of the host State, and, further, urges States and appropriate international organizations to provide technical and other appropriate assistance in developing such legal measures to States requesting such support;

11. *Encourages* all States and the United Nations to cooperate with each other in the exchange of information and in facilitating the conduct of investigations and, as appropriate, the prosecution of United Nations officials and experts on mission who are alleged to have committed crimes of a serious nature, in accordance with their national law and applicable United Nations rules and regulations, fully respecting due process rights, as well as to consider strengthening the capacities of their national authorities to investigate and prosecute such crimes;

12. *Encourages* all States:

(a) To afford each other assistance in connection with criminal investigations or criminal or extradition proceedings in respect of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, including assistance in obtaining evidence at their disposal, in accordance with their national law or any treaties or other arrangements on extradition and mutual legal assistance that may exist between them;

(b) In accordance with their national law, to explore ways and means of facilitating the possible use of information and material obtained from the United Nations for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated in their territory for the prosecution of crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, bearing in mind due process considerations;

(c) In accordance with their national law, to provide effective protection for victims of, witnesses to and others who provide information in relation to crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations

officials and experts on mission and to facilitate access of victims to victim assistance programmes, without prejudice to the rights of the alleged offender, including those relating to due process;

(d) In accordance with their national law, to explore ways and means of responding adequately to requests by host States for support and assistance in order to enhance their capacity to conduct effective investigations in respect of crimes of a serious nature alleged to have been committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission;

13. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure that requests to Member States seeking personnel to serve as experts on mission make States aware of the expectation that persons who serve in that capacity should meet high standards in their conduct and behaviour and be aware that certain conduct may amount to a crime for which they may be held accountable, and also requests the Secretariat to take all appropriate measures to continue to ensure that all such personnel, as well as United Nations officials, are properly vetted by the States contributing personnel and by the Organization for any prior misconduct while serving with the United Nations;

14. *Urges* the Secretary-General to make Member States contributing personnel to serve as experts on mission aware of the necessity of providing appropriate conduct-related training prior to deployment, and also urges the Secretary-General to continue to take such practical measures as are within his authority to strengthen existing training on United Nations standards of conduct, including through predeployment and in-mission induction training for United Nations officials and experts on mission;

15. *Reiterates* its decision that, bearing in mind its resolutions 62/63 and 63/119, the consideration of the report of the Group of Legal Experts, in particular its legal aspects, taking into account the views of Member States and also noting the inputs by the Secretariat, shall be continued during its seventy-ninth session in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee, and, for that purpose, invites further comments from Member States on that report, including on the question of future action;

16. *Takes note* of the briefings by the Secretariat during the seventieth to seventy-seventh sessions, and decides to organize another briefing at the seventy-eighth session with a view to furthering discussion on measures that could be taken to help to ensure the accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission and prevent future crimes;

17. *Recognizes* the efforts of Member States towards devising concrete proposals to ensure the accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission, and encourages all Member States to redouble their efforts informally during the intersessional period, with the support of the Secretariat, in particular through the organization of informal briefings;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring credible allegations that reveal that a crime may have been committed by a United Nations official or expert on mission to the attention of the States against whose nationals such allegations are made and to request from those States updates, as set out in paragraph 20 below, on the status of their efforts to investigate and, as appropriate, prosecute crimes of a serious nature, as well as the types of appropriate assistance that States may wish to receive from the Secretariat for the purposes of such investigations and prosecutions;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to seek, from all States that have notified the United Nations with respect to investigations or prosecutions of crimes allegedly committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission, updates on the status of their investigations or prosecutions, provided that this would not prejudice national investigations or national proceedings;

20. *Urges* the States referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 above to provide to the Secretary-General periodic updates on their handling of the allegations, in order to demonstrate that Member States are taking steps to ensure accountability for crimes committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, in particular by informing the Secretary-General of whether any disciplinary or criminal proceedings have been brought and of the outcome of any such proceedings or the reasons for not initiating them, provided that this would not be contrary to national laws or prejudice national investigations or national proceedings, and requests the Secretary-General to continue and undertake the necessary follow-up with the States concerned, by all appropriate forms of communication, with a view to encouraging those States to respond;

21. *Encourages* all States to provide to the Secretary-General a point of contact in order to strengthen and enable efficient communication and cooperation between the United Nations and Member States, and requests the Secretary-General to maintain and update a list of points of contact;

22. *Requests* the United Nations, when its investigations into allegations suggest that crimes of a serious nature may have been committed by United Nations officials or experts on mission, to consider any appropriate measures that may facilitate the possible use of information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States, bearing in mind due process considerations;

23. *Encourages* the United Nations, when allegations against United Nations officials or experts on mission are determined by a United Nations administrative investigation to be unfounded, to take appropriate measures, in the interests of the Organization, to restore the credibility and the reputation of such officials and experts on mission;

24. *Urges* the United Nations to continue to cooperate with States exercising jurisdiction in order to provide them, within the framework of the relevant rules of international law and agreements governing activities of the United Nations, with information and material for purposes of criminal proceedings initiated by States;

25. *Recalls* the Secretary-General's bulletin on protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized audits or investigations,[24] underlines the importance of a culture in which individuals are encouraged and supported by the Organization to report alleged crimes, emphasizes that the United Nations, in accordance with the applicable rules of the Organization, should take no action that would retaliate against or intimidate United Nations officials and experts on mission who report allegations concerning crimes of a serious nature committed by United Nations officials and experts on mission, and stresses the need for appropriate safeguards against retaliation;

26. *Stresses* the critical importance of ensuring that victims of criminal conduct perpetrated by United Nations officials and experts on mission are made aware of available victim assistance and support, including from a gender perspective, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Sixth Committee on available victim assistance and support during the briefing at its seventy-eighth session;

27. *Takes note with appreciation* of the information provided by Governments in response to its resolutions 62/63, 63/119, 64/110, 65/20, 66/93, 67/88, 68/105, 69/114, 70/114, 71/134, 72/112, 73/196, 74/181, 75/132 and 76/106, and urges Governments to continue to take the measures necessary for the implementation of those resolutions, including their provisions addressing the establishment of jurisdiction over crimes, particularly those of a serious nature, as known in their existing national criminal laws, committed by their nationals while serving as United Nations officials or experts on mission, as well as cooperation among States, and to provide specific details thereon, in particular with respect to paragraph 10 above, in the information provided to the Secretary-General;

28. *Recalls its request* in resolution 76/106 for Governments to provide specific details on the measures taken, as necessary, for the implementation of its resolutions 62/63, 63/119, 64/110, 65/20, 66/93, 67/88, 68/105, 69/114, 70/114, 71/134, 72/112, 73/196, 74/181 and 75/132, and notes that, in response to those resolutions, 181 submissions and 18 questionnaire responses were received from 72 Member States between 6 December 2007 and 1 September 2022;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep up to date the online compilation of the full submissions and questionnaire responses as well as the online summary table of national provisions, based on information received from Member States since 2007, regarding the establishment of jurisdiction over their nationals whenever they serve as United Nations officials or experts on mission, in relation to crimes as known in their existing national criminal laws, particularly those of a serious nature, and also requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report containing a general overview of national provisions, based on the information received, for the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, provided that sufficient information has been received from Member States;

30. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General setting out updates to all relevant existing policies and procedures of the United Nations system regarding the allegations referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 above,[25] and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report on any updates to those policies and procedures and to develop recommendations to help to ensure that such policies and procedures relating to the reporting, investigation, referral and follow-up of credible allegations revealing that a crime may have been committed by a United Nations official or expert on mission are coherent, systematic and coordinated throughout the United Nations system;

[24] ST/SGB/2017/2/Rev.1.

[25] A/77/237.

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular with respect to paragraphs 10, 12, 13, 15, 18, 20 and 30 above, as well as any practical problems in its implementation, on the basis of information received from Governments and the Secretariat;

32. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve reporting methods and expand the scope of reporting by providing information on the allegations referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 above, as well as information received pursuant to paragraph 20 since 1 July 2007, limited to the United Nations entity involved, the year of referral, the dates and methods of follow-up requests from the Secretary-General, information about the type of crime and a summary of allegations, the status of investigations, prosecutorial and disciplinary actions taken, including with respect to individuals concerned who have left the duty mission or the service of the United Nations, any requests for waivers of immunity, as applicable, and information on jurisdictional, evidentiary or other obstacles to prosecution, while protecting the privacy of the victims as well as respecting the privacy and rights of those subject to the allegations;

33. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission".

RESOLUTION 77/99

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/413, para. 11)[26]

77/99. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-fifth session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Reaffirming its belief that the progressive modernization and harmonization of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity, common interest and respect for the rule of law, to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to peace, stability and the well-being of all peoples,

Having considered the report of the Commission,[27]

Reiterating its concern that activities undertaken by other bodies in the field of international trade law without adequate coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field, in particular to avoid duplication of efforts, including among organizations formulating rules of international trade, and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law, and to continue, through its secretariat,

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[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Austria, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czechia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Namibia, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/77/17).

to maintain close cooperation with other international organs and organizations, including regional organizations, active in the field of international trade law,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

2. *Commends* the Commission for the finalization and approval of the United Nations Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sales of Ships,[28] and the finalization and adoption of the Model Law on the Use and Cross-border Recognition of Identity Management and Trust Services[29] and the recommendations to assist mediation centres and other interested bodies with regard to mediation under the Mediation Rules;[30]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to operate, through the secretariat of the Commission, the repository of published information in accordance with article 8 of the Rules on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration,[31] as a continuation of the project until the end of 2023, to be funded entirely by voluntary contributions, notes with satisfaction the contributions by the European Union, Germany and the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries Fund for International Development in this regard,[32] and also requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly informed of developments regarding the funding and budgetary situation of the transparency repository;

4. *Notes with interest* the progress made by the Commission in its work in the areas of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, dispute settlement, investor-State dispute settlement reform, electronic commerce and insolvency law,[33] and encourages the Commission to continue to move forward efficiently to achieve tangible work outcomes in those areas;

5. *Takes note with interest* of the decisions of the Commission to task its working groups with the development of a new instrument on negotiable multimodal transport documents,[34] work on automated contracting and on data provision contracts as part of its work on legal issues related to the digital economy, and the consideration of the topics of technology-related dispute resolution and adjudication jointly;[35]

6. *Welcomes* the decision by the Commission to proceed with its exploratory work on the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on international trade law,[36] the stocktaking of developments in dispute resolution in the digital economy[37] and the progress of the preparatory work in the area of warehouse receipts;[38]

7. *Takes note* of the interest of the Commission in holding a colloquium or an expert group meeting on the various legal issues surrounding climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience in conjunction with relevant interested international organizations;[39]

8. *Notes* the endorsement by the Commission of the International Standard Demand Guarantee Practice for Uniform Rules for Demand Guarantees 758 of the International Chamber of Commerce;[40]

9. *Endorses* the efforts and initiatives of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, aimed at increasing coordination of and cooperation on legal activities of international and regional organizations active in the field of international trade law, including on legal issues relating to the digital economy as reaffirmed by the Commission at its fifty-third session,[41] and at promoting the rule

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[28] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. D, and annex I.

[29] Ibid., chap. VI, sect. C, and annex II.

[30] Ibid., chap. V, sect. C, and annex III.

[31] Ibid., *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/68/17), annex I.

[32] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/77/17), chap. XV, sect. E.

[33] Ibid., chaps. VII–XI.

[34] Ibid., chap. XII, sect. B.2.

[35] Ibid., chap. VII, sect. B.

[36] Ibid., chap. XII, sect. B.3.

[37] Ibid., sect. B.5 (a).

[38] Ibid., sect. B.1.

[39] Ibid., sect. B.4.

[40] Ibid., chap. XIII.

[41] Ibid., *Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/75/17), part two, chap. X, sect. C.4, para. 72.

of law at the national and international levels in this field, and in this regard appeals to relevant international and regional organizations to coordinate their activities with those of the Commission, to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of international trade law;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with technical cooperation and assistance in the field of international trade law reform and development, and in this connection:

(a) Welcomes the initiatives of the Commission towards expanding, through its secretariat, its technical cooperation and assistance programme, in that respect encourages the Secretary-General to seek partnerships with State and non-State actors to increase awareness about the work of the Commission and facilitate the effective implementation of legal standards resulting from its work, and notes with appreciation the organization by the secretariat of the UNCITRAL Day events in partnership with Governments and regional universities in Asia and the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean as well as the launch of a series of UNCITRAL Day events for Africa, aimed at promoting awareness and encouraging the study and discussion of Commission texts;[42]

(b) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities and for providing assistance with legislative drafting in the field of international trade law, and draws the attention of the Secretary-General to the limited resources that are made available in this field;

(c) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions enabled the technical cooperation and assistance activities to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law trust fund for symposiums and, where appropriate, for the financing of special projects and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in carrying out technical cooperation and assistance activities, in particular in developing countries;

(d) Reiterates its appeal to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the World Bank and regional development banks, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the technical cooperation and assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate with the Commission and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission in the light of the relevance and importance of the work and programmes of the Commission for the promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels and for the implementation of the international development agenda, including the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[43]

(e) Recalls its resolutions stressing the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building, and welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure greater coordination and coherence among United Nations entities and with donors and recipients;

11. *Recalls* the importance of adherence to the rules of procedure and methods of work of the Commission, including transparent and inclusive deliberations, taking into account the summary of conclusions as reproduced in annex III to the report on the work of its forty-third session,[44] requests the Secretariat to issue, prior to meetings of the Commission and of its working groups, a reminder of those rules of procedure and methods of work with a view to ensuring the high quality of the work of the Commission and encouraging the assessment of its instruments, and recalls in this regard its previous resolutions related to this matter;

12. *Welcomes* the activities of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, in the Republic of Korea, towards providing capacity-building and technical assistance services to States in the Asia-Pacific region, including to international and regional organizations, expresses its appreciation to the Republic of Korea and China, whose contributions enabled continuing operation of the Regional Centre, notes that the continuation of the regional presence relies entirely on extrabudgetary resources, including but not limited to voluntary contributions from States, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly

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[42] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/77/17), chap. XV, sect. B.1.

[43] Resolution 70/1.

[44] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/65/17).

informed of developments regarding the establishment of regional centres, in particular their funding and budgetary situation;

13. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General, in order to enable renewal of the provision of that assistance and to increase expert representation from developing countries at sessions of the Commission and its working groups, necessary to build local expertise and capacities in those countries to put in place a regulatory and enabling environment for business, trade and investment;

14. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation of all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General, and notes the contributions from France, Germany, the European Union and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation to the trust fund, which would facilitate the participation of representatives of developing States in the deliberations of Working Group III;[45]

15. *Endorses* the conviction of the Commission that the implementation and effective use of modern private law standards in international trade are essential for advancing good governance, sustained economic development and the eradication of poverty and hunger and that the promotion of the rule of law in commercial relations should be an integral part of the broader agenda of the United Nations to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, including through the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group, supported by the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General;

16. *Notes* the role of the Commission in promoting the rule of law, respective discussions in the Commission at its fifty-fifth session, and the comments transmitted by the Commission, pursuant to paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 76/117 of 9 December 2021, highlighting the relevance of its current work to the promotion of the rule of law and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;[46]

17. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in paragraph 8 of the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, adopted by consensus as resolution 67/1 of 24 September 2012, Member States recognized the importance of fair, stable and predictable legal frameworks for generating inclusive, sustainable and equitable development, economic growth and employment, generating investment and facilitating entrepreneurship and, in this regard, commended the work of the Commission in modernizing and harmonizing international trade law and that, in paragraph 7 of the declaration, Member States expressed their conviction that the rule of law and development were strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing;

18. *Also notes with satisfaction* that, in paragraph 89 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted by the General Assembly by consensus as resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, States endorsed the efforts and initiatives of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, aimed at increasing coordination of and cooperation on legal activities of international and regional organizations active in the field of international trade law and at promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels in this field;

19. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in conformity with resolutions of the General Assembly on documentation-related matters,[47] which, in particular, emphasize that any invitation to limit, where appropriate, the length of documents should not adversely affect either the quality of the presentation or the substance of the documents, to bear in mind the particular characteristics of the mandate and functions of the Commission in the progressive development and codification of international trade law when implementing page limits with respect to the documentation of the Commission;[48]

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[45] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/77/17), chap. X.

[46] Ibid., chap. XVIII.

[47] Resolutions 52/214, sect. B, 57/283 B, sect. III, and 58/250, sect. III.

[48] See resolutions 59/39, para. 9, and 65/21, para. 18; see also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/59/17), paras. 124–128.

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the publication of Commission standards and the provision of summary records of the meetings of the Commission, including committees of the whole established by the Commission for the duration of its annual session, relating to the formulation of normative texts;

21. *Recalls* paragraph 48 of its resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011 regarding the rotation scheme of meetings between Vienna and New York;

22. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the use of texts emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to conventions, enacting model laws and encouraging the use of other relevant texts;

23. *Commends* the secretariat of the Commission for holding an online panel discussion on technical assistance activities in the field of insolvency law;[49]

24. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Secretariat on the system for the collection and dissemination of case law on Commission texts (the CLOUT system) in the six official languages of the United Nations, notes the resource-intensive nature of the system, acknowledges the need for further resources to sustain and expand it, notes with interest the progress towards a rejuvenation of the CLOUT system, and its focus on developing a more active and productive network of CLOUT system contributors and covering an expanded range of Commission texts, in this regard welcomes the renewed efforts by the Commission and its secretariat towards building partnerships with interested institutions, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to assist the secretariat of the Commission in raising awareness as to the availability and usefulness of the CLOUT system in professional, academic and judiciary circles and in securing the funding required for the coordination and expansion of the system and the establishment, within the secretariat of the Commission, of a pillar focused on the promotion of ways and means of interpreting Commission texts in a uniform manner;

25. *Welcomes* the continuing work of the Secretariat on digests of case law related to Commission texts, including their wide dissemination, as well as the continuing increase in the number of abstracts available through the CLOUT system, in view of the role of the digests and the CLOUT system as important tools for the promotion of the uniform interpretation of international trade law, in particular by building local capacity of judges, arbitrators and other legal practitioners to interpret those standards in the light of their international character and the need to promote uniformity in their application and the observance of good faith in international trade, and notes the satisfaction of the Commission with the performance of the New York Convention website[50] and the successful coordination between that website and the CLOUT system;

26. *Recalls* its resolutions affirming the importance of high-quality, user-friendly and cost-effective United Nations websites and the need for their multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment,[51] commends the fact that the website of the Commission has been migrated to a mobile device-friendly platform and that it continues to be published simultaneously in the six official languages of the United Nations, and welcomes the continuous efforts of the Commission to maintain and improve its website, and to enhance the visibility of its work by utilizing social media features in accordance with the applicable guidelines.[52]

RESOLUTION 77/100

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/413, para. 11)[53]

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[49] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/77/17), chap. XV, sect. B.2.

[50] https://newyorkconvention1958.org/.

[51] Resolutions 52/214, sect. C, para. 3; 55/222, sect. III, para. 12; 56/64 B, sect. X; 57/130 B, sect. X; 58/101 B, sect. V, paras. 61–76; 59/126 B, sect. V, paras. 76–95; 60/109 B, sect. IV, paras. 66–80; and 61/121 B, sect. IV, paras. 65–77.

[52] See resolution 63/120, para. 20.

[53] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Thailand on behalf of the Bureau.

77/100. United Nations Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sales of Ships

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Mindful of the crucial role of shipping in international trade and transportation, of the high economic value of ships used in both seagoing and inland navigation, and of the function of judicial sales as a means to enforce claims,

Considering that adequate legal protection for purchasers may positively impact the price realized at judicial sales of ships, to the benefit of both shipowners and creditors, including lienholders and ship financiers,

Wishing, for that purpose, to establish uniform rules that promote the dissemination of information on prospective judicial sales to interested parties and give international effects to judicial sales of ships sold free and clear of any mortgage or *hypothèque* and of any charge, including for ship registration purposes,

Convinced that the adoption of a convention on the international effects of judicial sales of ships that is acceptable to States with different legal, social and economic systems would complement the existing international legal framework on shipping and navigation and contribute to the development of harmonious international economic relations,

Noting that the preparation of the draft convention on the international effects of judicial sales of ships was the subject of due deliberation in the Commission and that the draft convention benefited from consultations with Governments and interested intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations,

Taking note of the decision of the Commission at its fifty-fifth session to submit the draft convention to the General Assembly for its consideration,[54]

Taking note with satisfaction of the draft convention approved by the Commission,[55]

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of China for its offer to host a signing ceremony for the Convention in Beijing,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for preparing the draft convention on the international effects of judicial sales of ships;

2. *Adopts* the United Nations Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sales of Ships, contained in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Authorizes* a ceremony for the opening for signature of the Convention to be held as soon as practicable in 2023 in Beijing, upon which occasion the Convention will be open for signature, and recommends that the Convention be known as the "Beijing Convention on the Judicial Sale of Ships";

4. *Calls upon* those Governments and regional economic integration organizations that wish to strengthen the international legal framework for shipping and navigation to consider becoming a party to the Convention.

Annex
United Nations Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sales of Ships

The States Parties to this Convention,

Reaffirming their belief that international trade on the basis of equality and mutual benefit is an important element in promoting friendly relations among States,

Mindful of the crucial role of shipping in international trade and transportation, of the high economic value of ships used in both seagoing and inland navigation, and of the function of judicial sales as a means to enforce claims,

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[54] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/77/17), para. 99.

[55] Ibid., annex I.

Considering that adequate legal protection for purchasers may positively impact the price realized at judicial sales of ships, to the benefit of both shipowners and creditors, including lienholders and ship financiers,

Wishing, for that purpose, to establish uniform rules that promote the dissemination of information on prospective judicial sales to interested parties and give international effects to judicial sales of ships sold free and clear of any mortgage or *hypothèque* and of any charge, including for ship registration purposes,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1
Purpose

This Convention governs the international effects of a judicial sale of a ship that confers clean title on the purchaser.

Article 2
Definitions

For the purposes of this Convention:

(a) "Judicial sale" of a ship means any sale of a ship:

(i) Which is ordered, approved or confirmed by a court or other public authority either by way of public auction or by private treaty carried out under the supervision and with the approval of a court; and

(ii) For which the proceeds of sale are made available to the creditors;

(b) "Ship" means any ship or other vessel registered in a register that is open to public inspection that may be the subject of an arrest or other similar measure capable of leading to a judicial sale under the law of the State of judicial sale;

(c) "Clean title" means title free and clear of any mortgage or *hypothèque* and of any charge;

(d) "Mortgage or *hypothèque*" means any mortgage or *hypothèque* that is effected on a ship and registered in the State in whose register of ships or equivalent register the ship is registered;

(e) "Charge" means any right whatsoever and howsoever arising which may be asserted against a ship, whether by means of arrest, attachment or otherwise, and includes a maritime lien, lien, encumbrance, right of use or right of retention but does not include a mortgage or *hypothèque*;

(f) "Registered charge" means any charge that is registered in the register of ships or equivalent register in which the ship is registered or in any different register in which mortgages or *hypothèques* are registered;

(g) "Maritime lien" means any charge that is recognized as a maritime lien or *privilège maritime* on a ship under applicable law;

(h) "Owner" of a ship means any person registered as the owner of the ship in the register of ships or equivalent register in which the ship is registered;

(i) "Purchaser" means any person to whom the ship is sold in the judicial sale;

(j) "Subsequent purchaser" means the person who purchases the ship from the purchaser named in the certificate of judicial sale referred to in article 5;

(k) "State of judicial sale" means the State in which the judicial sale of a ship is conducted.

Article 3
Scope of application

1. This Convention applies only to a judicial sale of a ship if:

(a) The judicial sale is conducted in a State Party; and

(b) The ship is physically within the territory of the State of judicial sale at the time of that sale.

2. This Convention shall not apply to warships or naval auxiliaries, or other vessels owned or operated by a State and used, immediately prior to the time of judicial sale, only on government non-commercial service.

Article 4
Notice of judicial sale

1. The judicial sale shall be conducted in accordance with the law of the State of judicial sale, which shall also provide procedures for challenging the judicial sale prior to its completion and determine the time of the sale for the purposes of this Convention.

2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, a certificate of judicial sale under article 5 shall only be issued if a notice of judicial sale is given prior to the judicial sale of the ship in accordance with the requirements of paragraphs 3 to 7.

3. The notice of judicial sale shall be given to:

(a) The registry of ships or equivalent registry with which the ship is registered;

(b) All holders of any mortgage or *hypothèque* and of any registered charge, provided that the register in which it is registered, and any instrument required to be registered under the law of the State of registration, are open to public inspection, and that extracts from the register and copies of such instruments are obtainable from the registry;

(c) All holders of any maritime lien, provided that they have notified the court or other public authority conducting the judicial sale of the claim secured by the maritime lien in accordance with the regulations and procedures of the State of judicial sale;

(d) The owner of the ship for the time being; and

(e) If the ship is granted bareboat charter registration:

(i) The person registered as the bareboat charterer of the ship in the bareboat charter register; and

(ii) The bareboat charter registry.

4. The notice of judicial sale shall be given in accordance with the law of the State of judicial sale, and shall contain, as a minimum, the information mentioned in annex I.

5. The notice of judicial sale shall also be:

(a) Published by announcement in the press or other publication available in the State of judicial sale; and

(b) Transmitted to the repository referred to in article 11 for publication.

6. For the purpose of communicating the notice to the repository, if the notice of judicial sale is not in a working language of the repository, it shall be accompanied by a translation of the information mentioned in annex I into any such working language.

7. In determining the identity or address of any person to whom the notice of judicial sale is to be given, it is sufficient to rely on:

(a) Information set forth in the register of ships or equivalent register in which the ship is registered or in the bareboat charter register;

(b) Information set forth in the register in which the mortgage or *hypothèque* or the registered charge is registered, if different to the register of ships or equivalent register; and

(c) Information notified under paragraph 3, subparagraph (c).

Article 5
Certificate of judicial sale

1. Upon completion of a judicial sale that conferred clean title to the ship under the law of the State of judicial sale and was conducted in accordance with the requirements of that law and the requirements of this Convention, the court or other public authority that conducted the judicial sale or other competent authority of the State of judicial sale shall, in accordance with its regulations and procedures, issue a certificate of judicial sale to the purchaser.

2. The certificate of judicial sale shall be substantially in the form of the model contained in annex II and contain:

(a) A statement that the ship was sold in accordance with the requirements of the law of the State of judicial sale and the requirements of this Convention;

(b) A statement that the judicial sale has conferred clean title to the ship on the purchaser;

(c) The name of the State of judicial sale;

(d) The name, address and the contact details of the authority issuing the certificate;

(e) The name of the court or other public authority that conducted the judicial sale and the date of the sale;

(f) The name of the ship and registry of ships or equivalent registry with which the ship is registered;

(g) The IMO number of the ship or, if not available, other information capable of identifying the ship;

(h) The name and address of residence or principal place of business of the owner of the ship immediately prior to the judicial sale;

(i) The name and address of residence or principal place of business of the purchaser;

(j) The place and date of issuance of the certificate; and

(k) The signature or stamp of the authority issuing the certificate or other confirmation of authenticity of the certificate.

3. The State of judicial sale shall require the certificate of judicial sale to be transmitted promptly to the repository referred to in article 11 for publication.

4. The certificate of judicial sale and any translation thereof shall be exempt from legalization or similar formality.

5. Without prejudice to articles 9 and 10, the certificate of judicial sale shall be sufficient evidence of the matters contained therein.

6. The certificate of judicial sale may be in the form of an electronic record provided that:

(a) The information contained therein is accessible so as to be usable for subsequent reference;

(b) A reliable method is used to identify the authority issuing the certificate; and

(c) A reliable method is used to detect any alteration to the record after the time it was generated, apart from the addition of any endorsement and any change that arises in the normal course of communication, storage and display.

7. A certificate of judicial sale shall not be rejected on the sole ground that it is in electronic form.

Article 6
International effects of a judicial sale

A judicial sale for which a certificate of judicial sale referred to in article 5 has been issued shall have the effect in every other State Party of conferring clean title to the ship on the purchaser.

Article 7
Action by the registry

1. At the request of the purchaser or subsequent purchaser and upon production of the certificate of judicial sale referred to in article 5, the registry or other competent authority of a State Party shall, as the case may be and in accordance with its regulations and procedures, but without prejudice to article 6:

(a) Delete from the register any mortgage or *hypothèque* and any registered charge attached to the ship that had been registered before completion of the judicial sale;

(b) Delete the ship from the register and issue a certificate of deletion for the purpose of new registration;

(c) Register the ship in the name of the purchaser or subsequent purchaser, provided further that the ship and the person in whose name the ship is to be registered meet the requirements of the law of the State of registration;

(d) Update the register with any other relevant particulars in the certificate of judicial sale.

2. At the request of the purchaser or subsequent purchaser and upon production of the certificate of judicial sale referred to in article 5, the registry or other competent authority of a State Party in which the ship was granted bareboat charter registration shall delete the ship from the bareboat charter register and issue a certificate of deletion.

3. If the certificate of judicial sale is not issued in an official language of the registry or other competent authority, the registry or other competent authority may request the purchaser or subsequent purchaser to produce a certified translation into such an official language.

4. The registry or other competent authority may also request the purchaser or subsequent purchaser to produce a certified copy of the certificate of judicial sale for its records.

5. Paragraphs 1 and 2 do not apply if a court in the State of the registry or of the other competent authority determines under article 10 that the effect of the judicial sale under article 6 would be manifestly contrary to the public policy of that State.

Article 8
No arrest of the ship

1. If an application is brought before a court or other judicial authority in a State Party to arrest a ship or to take any other similar measure against a ship for a claim arising prior to a judicial sale of the ship, the court or other judicial authority shall, upon production of the certificate of judicial sale referred to in article 5, dismiss the application.

2. If a ship is arrested or a similar measure is taken against a ship by order of a court or other judicial authority in a State Party for a claim arising prior to a judicial sale of the ship, the court or other judicial authority shall, upon production of the certificate of judicial sale referred to in article 5, order the release of the ship.

3. If the certificate of judicial sale is not issued in an official language of the court or other judicial authority, the court or other judicial authority may request the person producing the certificate to produce a certified translation into such an official language.

4. Paragraphs 1 and 2 do not apply if the court or other judicial authority determines that dismissing the application or ordering the release of the ship, as the case may be, would be manifestly contrary to the public policy of that State.

Article 9
Jurisdiction to avoid and suspend judicial sale

1. The courts of the State of judicial sale shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear any claim or application to avoid a judicial sale of a ship conducted in that State that confers clean title to the ship or to suspend its effects, which shall extend to any claim or application to challenge the issuance of the certificate of judicial sale referred to in article 5.

2. The courts of a State Party shall decline jurisdiction in respect of any claim or application to avoid a judicial sale of a ship conducted in another State Party that confers clean title to the ship or to suspend its effects.

3. The State of judicial sale shall require the decision of a court that avoids or suspends the effects of a judicial sale for which a certificate has been issued in accordance with article 5, paragraph 1, to be transmitted promptly to the repository referred to in article 11 for publication.

Article 10
Circumstances in which judicial sale has no international effect

A judicial sale of a ship shall not have the effect provided in article 6 in a State Party other than the State of judicial sale if a court in the other State Party determines that the effect would be manifestly contrary to the public policy of that other State Party.

Article 11
Repository

1. The repository shall be the Secretary-General of the International Maritime Organization or an institution named by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law.

2. Upon receipt of a notice of judicial sale transmitted under article 4, paragraph 5, certificate of judicial sale transmitted under article 5, paragraph 3, or decision transmitted under article 9, paragraph 3, the repository shall make it available to the public in a timely manner, in the form and in the language in which it is received.

3. The repository may also receive a notice of judicial sale emanating from a State that has ratified, accepted, approved or acceded to this Convention and for which the Convention has not yet entered into force and may make it available to the public.

Article 12
Communication between authorities of States Parties

1. For the purposes of this Convention, the authorities of a State Party shall be authorized to correspond directly with the authorities of any other State Party.

2. Nothing in this article shall affect the application of any international agreement on judicial assistance in respect of civil and commercial matters that may exist between States Parties.

Article 13
Relationship with other international conventions

1. Nothing in this Convention shall affect the application of the Convention on the Registration of Inland Navigation Vessels (1965) and its Protocol No. 2 concerning Attachment and Forced Sale of Inland Navigation Vessels, including any future amendment to that convention or protocol.

2. Without prejudice to article 4, paragraph 4, as between States Parties to this Convention that are also parties to the Convention on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters (1965), the notice of judicial sale may be transmitted abroad using channels other than those provided for in that convention.

Article 14
Other bases for giving international effect

Nothing in this Convention shall preclude a State from giving effect to a judicial sale of a ship conducted in another State under any other international agreement or under applicable law.

Article 15
Matters not governed by this Convention

1. Nothing in this Convention shall affect:

(a) The procedure for or priority in the distribution of proceeds of a judicial sale; or

(b) Any personal claim against a person who owned or had proprietary rights in the ship prior to the judicial sale.

2. Moreover, this Convention shall not govern the effects, under applicable law, of a decision by a court exercising jurisdiction under article 9, paragraph 1.

Article 16
Depositary

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is hereby designated as the depositary of this Convention.

Article 17
Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval, accession

1. This Convention is open for signature by all States.

2. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval by the signatory States.

3. This Convention is open for accession by all States that are not signatories as from the date it is open for signature.

4. Instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession are to be deposited with the depositary.

Article 18
Participation by regional economic integration organizations

1. A regional economic integration organization that is constituted by sovereign States and has competence over certain matters governed by this Convention may similarly sign, ratify, accept, approve or accede to this Convention. The regional economic integration organization shall in that case have the rights and obligations of a State Party, to the extent that that organization has competence over matters governed by this Convention. For the purposes of articles 21 and 22, an instrument deposited by a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted in addition to the instruments deposited by its member States.

2. The regional economic integration organization shall make a declaration specifying the matters governed by this Convention in respect of which competence has been transferred to that organization by its member States. The regional economic integration organization shall promptly notify the depositary of any changes to the distribution of competence, including new transfers of competence, specified in the declaration under this paragraph.

3. Any reference to a "State", "States", "State Party" or "States Parties" in this Convention applies equally to a regional economic integration organization where the context so requires.

4. This Convention shall not affect the application of rules of a regional economic integration organization, whether adopted before or after this Convention:

(a) In relation to the transmission of a notice of judicial sale between member States of such an organization; or

(b) In relation to the jurisdictional rules applicable between member States of such an organization.

Article 19
Non-unified legal systems

1. If a State has two or more territorial units in which different systems of law are applicable in relation to the matters dealt with in this Convention, it may declare that this Convention shall extend to all its territorial units or only to one or more of them.

2. Declarations under this article shall state expressly the territorial units to which this Convention extends.

3. If a State makes no declaration under paragraph 1, this Convention shall extend to all territorial units of that State.

4. If a State has two or more territorial units in which different systems of law are applicable in relation to the matters dealt with in this Convention:

(a) Any reference to the law, regulations or procedures of the State shall be construed as referring, where appropriate, to the law, regulations or procedures in force in the relevant territorial unit;

(b) Any reference to the authority of the State shall be construed as referring, where appropriate, to the authority in the relevant territorial unit.

Article 20
Procedure and effects of declarations

1. Declarations under article 18, paragraph 2, and article 19, paragraph 1, shall be made at the time of signature, ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Declarations made at the time of signature are subject to confirmation upon ratification, acceptance or approval.

2. Declarations and their confirmations shall be in writing and formally notified to the depositary.

3. A declaration takes effect simultaneously with the entry into force of this Convention in respect of the State concerned.

4. Any State that makes a declaration under article 18, paragraph 2, and article 19, paragraph 1, may modify or withdraw it at any time by a formal notification in writing addressed to the depositary. The modification or withdrawal

shall take effect 180 days after the date of the receipt of the notification by the depositary. If the depositary receives the notification of the modification or withdrawal before entry into force of this Convention in respect of the State concerned, the modification or withdrawal shall take effect simultaneously with the entry into force of this Convention in respect of that State.

Article 21
Entry into force

1. This Convention shall enter into force 180 days after the date of the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

2. When a State ratifies, accepts, approves or accedes to this Convention after the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention shall enter into force in respect of that State 180 days after the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

3. This Convention shall apply only to judicial sales ordered or approved after its entry into force in respect of the State of judicial sale.

Article 22
Amendment

1. Any State Party may propose an amendment to this Convention by submitting it to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate the proposed amendment to the States Parties with a request that they indicate whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposal. In the event that within 120 days from the date of such communication at least one third of the States Parties favour such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

2. The conference of States Parties shall make every effort to achieve consensus on each amendment. If all efforts at consensus are exhausted and no consensus is reached, the amendment shall, as a last resort, require for its adoption a two-thirds majority vote of the States Parties present and voting at the conference. For the purposes of this paragraph, the vote of a regional economic integration organization shall not be counted.

3. An adopted amendment shall be submitted by the depositary to all States Parties for ratification, acceptance or approval.

4. An adopted amendment shall enter into force 180 days after the date of deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval. When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those States Parties that have expressed consent to be bound by it.

5. When a State Party ratifies, accepts or approves an amendment following the deposit of the third instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval, the amendment shall enter into force in respect of that State Party 180 days after the date of the deposit of its instrument of ratification, acceptance or approval.

Article 23
Denunciation

1. A State Party may denounce this Convention by a formal notification in writing addressed to the depositary. The denunciation may be limited to certain territorial units of a non-unified legal system to which this Convention applies.

2. The denunciation shall take effect 365 days after the date of the receipt of the notification by the depositary. Where a longer period for the denunciation to take effect is specified in the notification, the denunciation shall take effect upon the expiration of such longer period after the date of the receipt of the notification by the depositary. This Convention shall continue to apply to a judicial sale for which a certificate of judicial sale referred to in article 5 has been issued before the denunciation takes effect.

DONE in a single original, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic.

Annex I
Minimum information to be contained in the notice of judicial sale

1. Statement that the notice of judicial sale is given for the purposes of the United Nations Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sales of Ships
2. Name of State of judicial sale
3. Court or other public authority ordering, approving or confirming the judicial sale
4. Reference number or other identifier for the judicial sale procedure
5. Name of ship
6. Registry
7. IMO number
8. (*If IMO number not available*) Other information capable of identifying the ship
9. Name of the owner
10. Address of residence or principal place of business of the owner
11. (*If judicial sale by public auction*) Anticipated date, time and place of public auction
12. (*If judicial sale by private treaty*) Any relevant details, including time period, for the judicial sale as ordered by the court or other public authority
13. Statement either confirming that the judicial sale will confer clean title to the ship, or, if it is not known whether the judicial sale will confer clean title, a statement of the circumstances under which the judicial sale would not confer clean title
14. Other information required by the law of the State of judicial sale, in particular any information deemed necessary to protect the interests of the person receiving the notice

Annex II
Model certificate of judicial sale

Issued in accordance with the provisions of article 5 of the United Nations Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sales of Ships

This is to certify that:

(a) The ship described below was sold by way of judicial sale in accordance with the requirements of the law of the State of judicial sale and the requirements of the United Nations Convention on the International Effects of Judicial Sales of Ships; and

(b) The judicial sale has conferred clean title to the ship on the purchaser.

1. State of judicial sale .....

2. Authority issuing this certificate

2.1 Name .....

2.2 Address .....

2.3 Telephone/fax/email, if available .....

3. Judicial sale .....

3.1 Name of court or other public authority that conducted the judicial sale .....

3.2 Date of the judicial sale .....

4. Ship

4.1 Name .....

4.2 Registry .....

4.3 IMO number .....

4.4 (*If IMO number not available*) Other information capable of identifying the ship (*Please attach any photos to the certificate*) .....

5. Owner immediately prior to the judicial sale

5.1 Name .....

5.2 Address of residence or principal place of business .....

6. Purchaser

6.1 Name .....

6.2 Address of residence or principal place of business .....

At ..... (place) **On** ..... (date)

.....

Signature and/or stamp of issuing authority or other confirmation of authenticity of the certificate

RESOLUTION 77/101

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/413, para. 11)[56]

77/101. Model Law on the Use and Cross-border Recognition of Identity Management and Trust Services

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Recalling also its resolution 60/21 of 23 November 2005, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts and called upon all Governments to consider becoming party to the Convention, and its resolutions 51/162 of 16 December 1996, 56/80 of 12 December 2001 and 72/114 of 7 December 2017, in which it recommended that all States give favourable consideration to the Model Law on Electronic Commerce, the Model Law on Electronic Signatures and the Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records of the Commission, respectively,

[56] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Singapore on behalf of the Bureau.

Mindful that the Convention, the Model Law on Electronic Commerce, the Model Law on Electronic Signatures and the Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records are of significant assistance to States in enabling and facilitating electronic commerce in international trade,

Convinced that confidence, legal certainty and predictability in electronic commerce, including across borders, will be enhanced by the harmonization of certain rules on the legal recognition of identity management and trust services on a technology-neutral basis and, when appropriate, according to the functional equivalence approach,

Recalling that, at its forty-ninth session, in 2016, the Commission mandated its Working Group IV (Electronic Commerce) to undertake work on the use and cross-border recognition of identity management and trust services,[57]

Noting that the Working Group devoted 10 sessions, from 2017 to 2022, to that work, and that the Commission considered at its fifty-fifth session, in 2022, a draft model law on the use and cross-border recognition of identity management and trust services prepared by the Working Group, together with comments on the draft received from Governments and international organizations invited to sessions of the Working Group,[58]

Believing that a model law on the use and cross-border recognition of identity management and trust services will constitute a useful addition to existing Commission texts in the area of electronic commerce by assisting States in enhancing their legislation governing the use of identity management and trust services, or formulating such legislation where none currently exists, in particular with respect to cross-border aspects,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for completing and adopting the Model Law on the Use and Cross-border Recognition of Identity Management and Trust Services;[59]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to publish the Model Law together with an explanatory note, including electronically, in the six official languages of the United Nations, and to disseminate it broadly to Governments and other interested bodies;

3. *Recommends* that all States give favourable consideration to the Model Law when revising or adopting legislation relevant to identity management and trust services, and invites States that have used the Model Law to advise the Commission accordingly;

4. *Also recommends* that States continue to consider becoming parties to the United Nations Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts[60] and to give favourable consideration to the use of the Model Law on Electronic Commerce,[61] the Model Law on Electronic Signatures[62] and the Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records[63] when revising or adopting legislation on electronic commerce;

5. *Appeals* to the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant international and regional organizations to coordinate their legal activities in the area of electronic commerce, including paperless trade facilitation, with those of the Commission, to avoid duplication of efforts and to promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of legislation on electronic commerce.

RESOLUTION 77/102

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/414, para. 7)[64]

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[57] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/71/17), paras. 235–236.

[58] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/77/17), chap. VI.

[59] Ibid., annex II.

[60] Resolution 60/21, annex; see also United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2898, No. 50525.

[61] Resolution 51/162, annex.

[62] Resolution 56/80, annex.

[63] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/72/17), annex I.

[64] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Ghana on behalf of the Bureau.

77/102. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965, in which the General Assembly established the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to contribute towards a better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Reaffirming that the Programme of Assistance is a core activity of the United Nations and that it has provided the foundation for the efforts of the United Nations to promote a better knowledge of international law for more than half a century,

Recognizing the major contribution of the Programme of Assistance to the teaching and dissemination of international law for the benefit of lawyers in all countries, legal systems and regions of the world for more than half a century and the importance of ensuring the successful continuation of the Programme for the benefit of present and future generations of lawyers,

Emphasizing the important contribution of the Programme of Assistance, in particular the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law and the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, to the furtherance of United Nations rule of law programmes and activities,

Reaffirming that the increasing demand for international law training and dissemination activities creates new challenges for the Programme of Assistance,

Recognizing the importance of the Programme of Assistance effectively reaching its beneficiaries, including with regard to languages, while bearing in mind limitations on available resources,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance[65] and the views of the Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, which are contained in the report,

Noting with satisfaction that resources have been provided under the programme budget for the organization of the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law on an annual basis and the further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law,

Noting that the 2020 Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea has been postponed until 2023 owing to the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Considering that international law should occupy an appropriate place in the teaching of legal disciplines at all universities,

Convinced that States, international and regional organizations, universities and institutions should be encouraged to give further support to the Programme of Assistance and to increase their activities to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, in particular those activities that are of special benefit to persons from developing countries,

Reaffirming that in the conduct of the Programme of Assistance it would be desirable to use as far as possible the resources and facilities made available by Member States, international and regional organizations, universities, institutions and others,

Reaffirming also the hope that, in appointing highly qualified lecturers for the seminars to be held within the framework of the fellowship programmes in international law, account would be taken of the need to secure the representation of major legal systems and balance among various geographical regions,

Regretting that the COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the activities planned for 2022 under the Programme of Assistance,

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[65] A/77/515.

Welcoming the interim capacity-building measures[66] developed by the Secretariat in response to the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Reiterates its approval* of the guidelines and recommendations contained in section III of the reports of the Secretary-General,[67] in particular those designed to strengthen and revitalize the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law in response to the increasing demand for international law training and dissemination activities;

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to carry out the activities specified in his report[68] in 2023, including the following activities to be financed from provisions in the regular budget:

(a) The International Law Fellowship Programme, with a minimum of 20 fellowships;

(b) The United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean, with a minimum of 20 fellowships for each course;

(c) The continuation and further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law, including the availability of its Historic Archives in the official languages of the United Nations;

(d) The dissemination of legal publications and lectures of the Audiovisual Library to developing countries to the extent that there are sufficient resources;

3. *Also authorizes* the Secretary-General to further expand the activities referred to in paragraph 2 above, to be financed from voluntary contributions received pursuant to paragraphs 17, 26 and 27 below;

4. *Commends* the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat for the cost-saving measures undertaken with regard to the International Law Fellowship Programme and the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law to increase the number of fellowships for the training programmes financed from provisions in the regular budget, taking into account the number of applications for these programmes;

5. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to award additional fellowships for the training programmes from available resources under the programme budget for the Programme of Assistance and from voluntary contributions received pursuant to paragraph 27 below;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to conduct interactive online workshops when the training programmes referred to in paragraph 2 above cannot take place in person owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, from the existing available resources under the programme budget for the Programme of Assistance and from the voluntary contributions received pursuant to paragraph 26 below;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider admitting, for participation in the training programmes, self-funded candidates present in the host country or from countries willing to bear the entire cost of their participation;

8. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to award a minimum of one scholarship in 2023 under the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea, subject to the availability of funds from voluntary contributions and limitations that may be imposed owing to the COVID-19 pandemic;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include resources under the proposed programme budget for 2024 for the International Law Fellowship Programme, the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, for Asia-Pacific and for Latin America and the Caribbean and for the continuation and further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the activities conducted under the Programme of Assistance and, in particular, for the efforts to strengthen, expand and enhance the international law training and dissemination activities within the framework of the Programme in 2022;

11. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for supporting the establishment of an alumni network of participants of the training programmes organized under the Programme of Assistance;

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[66] Specified in the report of the Secretary-General A/77/515.

[67] A/70/423, A/71/432, A/72/517, A/72/517/Corr.1, A/73/415, A/74/496, A/75/389, A/76/404 and A/77/515.

[68] A/77/515.

12. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the continuation and further development of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law as a major contribution to the teaching and dissemination of international law around the world, and notes with appreciation the efforts of the Codification Division to enhance the accessibility of the Audiovisual Library by making all lectures in the Lecture Series available as podcasts;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations legal publications prepared by the Office of Legal Affairs, and once again requests the Secretary-General to issue the publications referred to in his previous report[69] in various formats, including hard copy publications, which are essential for developing countries;

14. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts undertaken by the Codification Division to bring up to date the United Nations legal publications, which greatly enhanced the timely issuance thereof and made possible the preparation of legal training materials, and encourages the Division to continue to explore ways of sustaining such efforts into the next budget cycle, subject to the availability of resources;

15. *Notes with satisfaction* the issuance of publications by the Codification Division, as specified in the report of the Secretary-General;

16. *Expresses its appreciation* for the issuance of the English-language edition of the *International Law Handbook: Collection of Instruments* as a valuable resource for international law education on a broad range of core subjects of international law in its training programmes and for academic institutions in developing countries to promote international law education in those countries;

17. *Also expresses its appreciation* for the issuance of the *Recueil de droit international: Collection d'instruments*, the French language equivalent of the *International Law Handbook*, and requests Member States to provide the voluntary contributions necessary to ensure the completion of such a handbook in the other official languages of the United Nations, as well as its dissemination in developing countries;

18. *Requests* the Codification Division to continue to maintain and expand its websites listed in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General as an invaluable tool for the dissemination of international law materials as well as for advanced legal research;

19. *Requests* that interns and research assistants be enlisted for the preparation of materials for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law;

20. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Codification Division to revitalize and conduct the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law as an important training activity;

21. *Expresses its appreciation* to Chile, Ethiopia and Thailand for their efforts in preparing to host the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law in 2022;

22. *Expresses its appreciation* to the African Union for the valuable contribution that it continues to make to the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Africa;

23. *Once again encourages* the Codification Division to cooperate with the African Institute of International Law, dedicated to offering higher learning and research in international law needed for the development of Africa, in the implementation of the relevant activities under the Programme of Assistance;

24. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Hague Academy of International Law for the valuable contribution it continues to make to the Programme of Assistance, which has enabled candidates under the International Law Fellowship Programme to attend and participate in the Fellowship Programme in conjunction with courses at the Academy;

25. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions of the Hague Academy to the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law, and calls upon Member States and interested organizations to give favourable consideration to the appeal of the Academy for a continuation of support and a possible increase in their financial contributions, to enable the Academy to carry out its activities, particularly those relating to the summer and winter courses, regional courses and programmes of the Centre for Studies and Research in International Law and International Relations;

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[69] A/70/423, para. 45.

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to publicize the Programme of Assistance and periodically to invite Member States, universities, philanthropic foundations and other interested national and international institutions and organizations, as well as individuals, to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme or otherwise to assist in its implementation and possible expansion;

27. *Reiterates its request* to Member States and interested organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions for the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law and for the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law organized by the Codification Division as an important complement to the International Law Fellowship Programme;

28. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made voluntary contributions to support the Programme of Assistance;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2023 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to submit recommendations regarding the Programme in subsequent years;

30. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law".

RESOLUTION 77/103

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/415, para. 12)[70]

77/103. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third session

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third session,[71]

Emphasizing the importance of furthering the progressive development and codification of international law as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[72]

Recognizing the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission to enhance further their contribution to the progressive development and codification of international law,

Recalling the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

Recalling also the role of Member States in submitting proposals for new topics for the consideration of the International Law Commission, and noting in this regard the recommendation of the Commission that such proposals be accompanied by a statement of reasons,

Reaffirming the importance for the successful work of the International Law Commission of the information provided by Member States concerning their views and practice,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the special rapporteurs of the International Law Commission,

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[70] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Colombia on behalf of the Bureau.

[71] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/77/10).

[72] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Welcoming the holding of the International Law Seminar, and the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations trust fund for the International Law Seminar,

Acknowledging the importance of facilitating the timely publication of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* and of eliminating the backlog,

Stressing the usefulness of focusing and structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report and for discussions on specific topics,

Wishing to enhance further, in the context of the revitalization of the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two bodies,

Welcoming initiatives to hold interactive debates, panel discussions and question time in the Sixth Committee, as envisaged in General Assembly resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2004 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the Assembly,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third session;[73]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for the work accomplished at its seventy-third session, and notes in particular:

(a) The completion of the second reading of the draft conclusions on identification and legal consequences of peremptory norms of general international law (*jus cogens*) and the commentaries thereto;[74]

(b) The completion of the second reading of the draft principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts and the commentaries thereto;[75]

(c) The completion of the first reading of the draft articles on immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction and the commentaries thereto;[76]

3. *Decides* that the consideration of chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third session, dealing with the topic "Peremptory norms of general international law (*jus cogens*)", shall be continued at the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, during the consideration of the report of the Commission on the work of its seventy-fourth session;

4. *Recommends* that the International Law Commission continue its work on the topics in its current programme of work, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether submitted in writing or expressed orally in debates in the Sixth Committee;

5. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views on the various aspects of the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report,[77] regarding:

(a) General principles of law;

(b) Sea-level rise in relation to international law;

(c) Subsidiary means for the determination of rules of international law;

(d) Prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea;

(e) Settlement of international disputes to which international organizations are parties;

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[73] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/77/10).

[74] Ibid, chap. IV, sect. E.

[75] Ibid, chap. V, sect. E.

[76] Ibid, chap. VI, sect. C.

[77] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/77/10).

6. *Also draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their comments and observations by 1 December 2023 on the draft articles on immunity of State officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction;[78]

7. *Takes note* of the decision of the International Law Commission to include the topics "Settlement of international disputes to which international organizations are parties", "Prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea" and "Subsidiary means for the determination of rules of international law" in its programme of work,[79] and encourages the Commission to continue the examination of the topics that are in its long-term programme of work;[80]

8. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to take particular account of the capacity and views of Member States, as well as of the workload of the Commission, when including topics in its current programme of work;

9. *Takes note* of paragraphs 249 to 253 of the report of the International Law Commission,[81] and notes, in particular, the inclusion of the topic "Non-legally binding international agreements" in the long-term programme of work of the Commission,[82] and in this regard calls upon the Commission to take into consideration the comments, concerns and observations expressed by Governments during the debate in the Sixth Committee;

10. *Also takes note* of paragraph 270 of the report of the International Law Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to identify concrete options for support for the work of special rapporteurs, additional to those provided under General Assembly resolution 56/272 of 27 March 2002;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts of the International Law Commission to improve its methods of work, and encourages the Commission to continue this practice;

12. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue to take measures to enhance its efficiency and productivity and to consider making proposals to Member States to that end;

13. *Recalls* the importance of an in-depth analysis of State practice and the consideration of the diversity of legal systems of Member States to the work of the International Law Commission;

14. *Takes note* of paragraph 274 of the report of the International Law Commission, recalls the paramount importance of multilingualism as set forth in General Assembly resolutions 69/324 of 11 September 2015 and 73/346 of 16 September 2019 on multilingualism, underlines the importance of having the documents of the Commission published in due time in the six official languages of the United Nations while ensuring their accuracy in all official languages, and to this end requests special rapporteurs to submit their reports within the time limits specified by the Secretariat, and the Secretariat to give due consideration to the quality of the translation of the documents of the Commission in the six official languages;

15. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue to take cost-saving measures at its future sessions, without prejudice to the efficiency and effectiveness of its work;

16. *Recalls* that the seat of the International Law Commission is at the United Nations Office at Geneva;

17. *Takes note* of paragraph 284 of the report of the International Law Commission, and decides that the next session of the Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 24 April to 2 June and from 3 July to 4 August 2023;

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[78] Ibid., para. 66.

[79] Ibid., paras. 238–240.

[80] The following topics are currently in the long-term programme of work of the International Law Commission: "Ownership and protection of wrecks beyond the limits of national maritime jurisdiction", "Jurisdictional immunity of international organizations", "Protection of personal data in transborder flow of information", "Extraterritorial jurisdiction", "The fair and equitable treatment standard in international investment law", "Evidence before international courts and tribunals", "Universal criminal jurisdiction", "Reparation to individuals for gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law" and "Non-legally binding international agreements".

[81] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/77/10).

[82] Ibid., para. 251.

18. *Also takes note* of paragraph 281 of the report of the International Law Commission, and requests the Secretariat to proceed with the necessary administrative and organizational arrangements to facilitate the holding of the first part of a session of the Commission in New York during the next quinquennium;

19. *Stresses* the desirability of further enhancing the dialogue between the International Law Commission, in particular the special rapporteurs, and the Sixth Committee, and in this context encourages, inter alia, the continued practice of informal consultations in the form of discussions between the members of the Sixth Committee and the members of the Commission throughout the year;

20. *Encourages* delegations, during the debate on the report of the International Law Commission, to continue to adhere as far as possible to the structured work programme agreed to by the Sixth Committee and to consider presenting concise and focused statements;

21. *Encourages* Member States to consider being represented at the level of legal adviser during the first week in which the report of the International Law Commission is discussed in the Sixth Committee (International Law Week) to enable high-level discussions on issues of international law;

22. *Underlines* in this regard the necessity to allow sufficient time for the consideration of the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee;

23. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

24. *Takes note* of paragraphs 286 to 288 of the report of the International Law Commission with regard to cooperation and interaction with other bodies, and encourages the Commission to continue the implementation of articles 16 (e), 25 and 26 of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation;

25. *Notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

26. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the indispensable role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in providing assistance to the International Law Commission, including in the preparation of memorandums and studies on topics on the agenda of the Commission, and takes note of the request of the Commission to the Secretariat contained in paragraphs 241 to 246 of the report of the Commission to prepare memorandums that would be particularly relevant for its future work on the topics "Settlement of international disputes to which international organizations are parties", "Prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea", "Subsidiary means for the determination of rules of international law" and "Sea-level rise in relation to international law";

27. *Also reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the documentation and summary records of the International Law Commission;[83]

28. *Takes note* of paragraph 272 of the report of the International Law Commission, stresses the need to expedite the preparation of the summary records of the International Law Commission, welcomes the continuation of the measures taken to streamline the processing of summary records during the sixty-fifth session of the Commission,[84] which have led to a more rational use of resources, and expresses its satisfaction that the summary records of the Commission, constituting *travaux préparatoires* in the progressive development and codification of international law, will not be subject to arbitrary length restrictions;

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[83] See resolutions 32/151, para. 10, and 37/111, para. 5, and all subsequent resolutions on the annual reports of the International Law Commission to the General Assembly; see also *Yearbook of the International Law Commission 1982*, vol. II (Part Two), paras. 267–269 and 271, as well as all subsequent annual reports of the International Law Commission.

[84] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/68/10), para. 183.

29. *Welcomes* the institutionalization of the practice of the Secretariat to include on the website of the International Law Commission the provisional summary records in English and French relating to the work of the Commission;

30. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Secretariat in seeking to ensure the timely and efficient processing of the documents of the International Law Commission and the institutionalization of the experimental measures taken during the sixty-eighth session of the Commission to streamline the editing of those documents;

31. *Takes note* of paragraph 271 of the report of the International Law Commission, and underlines the importance of the publications of the Codification Division to the work of the Commission, welcomes in particular the issuance of the ninth edition of *The Work of the International Law Commission* also in Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General continue to publish *The Work of the International Law Commission* in all six official languages at the beginning of each quinquennium, the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards* in English or French and the *Summaries of the Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice* in all six official languages every five years;

32. *Also takes note* of paragraph 275 of the report of the International Law Commission, expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Library at Geneva for the dedicated assistance accorded to the Commission, and notes the Commission's emphasis on the need for adequate funding to ensure the continuation of the Library's ability to function as a research library to assist the Commission in the performance of its mandate in the codification and progressive development of international law;

33. *Further takes note* of paragraph 276 of the report of the International Law Commission, stresses the unique value of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure its timely publication in all official languages;

34. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments that have made voluntary contributions to the trust fund on the backlog relating to the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and encourages further contributions to the trust fund;

35. *Takes note* of paragraph 277 of the report of the International Law Commission, expresses its satisfaction with the remarkable progress achieved in the past few years in reducing the backlog of the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission* in all six languages, welcomes the efforts made by the Division of Conference Management of the United Nations Office at Geneva, especially its Editing Section, in effectively implementing relevant resolutions of the General Assembly calling for the reduction of the backlog, encourages that Division to provide continuous necessary support to the Editing Section in advancing the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*, and requests that updates on progress made in this respect be provided to the Commission on a regular basis;

36. *Welcomes* the continuous efforts of the Codification Division to maintain and improve the website relating to the work of the International Law Commission;

37. *Takes note* of paragraph 285 of the report of the International Law Commission, together with annex II and the appendix to the report, and, without prejudice to the importance of ensuring necessary allocations for the Commission and its secretariat in the regular budget, requests the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund for assistance to Special Rapporteurs of the International Law Commission and matters ancillary thereto, taking into account the terms of reference proposed in the appendix to the report, including the need for the financial contributions not to be earmarked for any specific activity of the International Law Commission, its Special Rapporteurs or Chairs of its Study Groups;

38. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants representing the principal legal systems of the world and from different countries in the various regions, including in particular those from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend the Seminar, as well as delegates to the Sixth Committee, and appeals to States to continue to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations trust fund for the International Law Seminar;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue to consider ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

40. *Underlines* the importance of the records and topical summary of the debate in the Sixth Committee for the deliberations of the International Law Commission, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to forward to the Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

41. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session, chapter III containing the specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission and any draft provisions adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

42. *Also requests* the Secretariat to make the complete report of the International Law Commission available as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the Commission for the consideration of Member States with due anticipation and no later than the prescribed time limit for reports in the General Assembly;

43. *Encourages* the International Law Commission to continue to consider ways in which specific issues on which the views of Governments would be of particular interest to the Commission could be framed so as to help Governments to have a better appreciation of the issues on which responses are required;

44. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly commence on 23 October 2023.

RESOLUTION 77/104

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/415, para. 12)[85]

77/104. Protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter V of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third session,[86] which contains the draft principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts,

Taking note of the recommendation of the International Law Commission contained in paragraph 55 of its report,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the recommendation of the United Nations Environment Programme that the International Law Commission examine the existing international law for protecting the environment during armed conflict and recommend how it can be clarified, codified and expanded,[87]

Noting that the subject of protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts is of major importance in international relations,

Recalling that, to the extent that they do not reflect customary or treaty-based obligations of States, as applicable, the draft principles provide recommendations for the progressive development of international law, inter alia, through examples of effective voluntary measures to enhance the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts,

[85] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Mexico on behalf of the Bureau.

[86] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/77/10).

[87] United Nations Environment Programme, *Protecting the Environment During Armed Conflict: An Inventory and Analysis of International Law* (Nairobi, 2009), recommendation 3.

1. *Welcomes* the conclusion of the work of the International Law Commission on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts and its adoption of the draft principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts and commentaries thereto;[88]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for its continuing contribution to the codification and progressive development of international law;

3. *Takes note* of all the views and comments expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee on the subject, including those made at the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly,[89] as well as the comments and observations submitted in writing by Governments on the draft principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts;

4. *Also takes note* of the principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution, with the commentaries thereto, brings them to the attention of States, international organizations and all who may be called upon to deal with the subject, and encourages their widest possible dissemination.

Annex
Principles on protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts

Preamble

Recalling the urgent need and common objectives to reinforce and advance the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the environment for present and future generations,

Recalling also that principle 24 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development provides, inter alia, that States shall respect international law providing protection for the environment in times of armed conflict and cooperate in its further development,

Recognizing that environmental consequences of armed conflicts may be severe and have the potential to exacerbate global environmental challenges, such as climate change and biodiversity loss,

Aware of the importance of the environment for livelihoods, food and water security, maintenance of traditions and cultures, and the enjoyment of human rights,

Emphasizing that environmental factors are to be taken into account in the context of the implementation of the principles and rules of the law applicable in armed conflict,

Conscious of the need to enhance the protection of the environment in relation to both international and non-international armed conflicts, including in situations of occupation,

Considering that effective protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts requires that measures are taken by States, international organizations and other relevant actors to prevent, mitigate and remediate harm to the environment before, during and after an armed conflict,

Part one
Introduction

Principle 1
Scope

The present principles apply to the protection of the environment before, during or after an armed conflict, including in situations of occupation.

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[88] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/77/10), paras. 58–59.

[89] See A/C.6/77/SR.21, A/C.6/77/SR.22, A/C.6/77/SR.23, A/C.6/77/SR.24, A/C.6/77/SR.25 and A/C.6/77/SR.31. The statements made in the Sixth Committee are available in full (in the original languages) on the website of the Sixth Committee, at www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/.

Principle 2
Purpose

The present principles are aimed at enhancing the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts, including through measures to prevent, mitigate and remediate harm to the environment.

Part two
Principles of general application

Principle 3
Measures to enhance the protection of the environment

1. States shall, pursuant to their obligations under international law, take effective legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures to enhance the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts.

2. In addition, States should take further measures, as appropriate, to enhance the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts.

Principle 4
Designation of protected zones

States should designate, by agreement or otherwise, areas of environmental importance as protected zones in the event of an armed conflict, including where those areas are of cultural importance.

Principle 5
Protection of the environment of Indigenous Peoples

1. States, international organizations and other relevant actors shall take appropriate measures, in the event of an armed conflict, to protect the environment of the lands and territories that Indigenous Peoples inhabit or traditionally use.

2. When an armed conflict has adversely affected the environment of the lands and territories that Indigenous Peoples inhabit or traditionally use, States shall undertake appropriate and effective consultations and cooperation with the Indigenous Peoples concerned, through appropriate procedures and in particular through their own representative institutions, for the purpose of taking remedial measures.

Principle 6
Agreements concerning the presence of military forces

States and international organizations should, as appropriate, include provisions on environmental protection in relation to armed conflict in agreements concerning the presence of military forces. Such provisions should address measures to prevent, mitigate and remediate harm to the environment.

Principle 7
Peace operations

States and international organizations involved in peace operations established in relation to armed conflicts shall consider the impact of such operations on the environment and take, as appropriate, measures to prevent, mitigate and remediate the harm to the environment resulting from those operations.

Principle 8
Human displacement

States, international organizations and other relevant actors should take appropriate measures to prevent, mitigate and remediate harm to the environment in areas where persons displaced by armed conflict are located, or through which they transit, while providing relief and assistance for such persons and local communities.

Principle 9
State responsibility

1. An internationally wrongful act of a State, in relation to an armed conflict, that causes damage to the environment entails the international responsibility of that State, which is under an obligation to make full reparation for such damage, including damage to the environment in and of itself.

2. The present principles are without prejudice to the rules on the responsibility of States or of international organizations for internationally wrongful acts.

3. The present principles are also without prejudice to:

(a) The rules on the responsibility of non-State armed groups;

(b) The rules on individual criminal responsibility.

Principle 10
Due diligence by business enterprises

States should take appropriate measures aimed at ensuring that business enterprises operating in or from their territories, or territories under their jurisdiction, exercise due diligence with respect to the protection of the environment, including in relation to human health, when acting in an area affected by an armed conflict. Such measures include those aimed at ensuring that natural resources are purchased or otherwise obtained in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Principle 11
Liability of business enterprises

States should take appropriate measures aimed at ensuring that business enterprises operating in or from their territories, or territories under their jurisdiction, can be held liable for harm caused by them to the environment, including in relation to human health, in an area affected by an armed conflict. Such measures should, as appropriate, include those aimed at ensuring that a business enterprise can be held liable to the extent that such harm is caused by its subsidiary acting under its de facto control. To this end, as appropriate, States should provide adequate and effective procedures and remedies, in particular for the victims of such harm.

Part three
Principles applicable during armed conflict

Principle 12
Martens Clause with respect to the protection of the environment in relation to armed conflicts

In cases not covered by international agreements, the environment remains under the protection and authority of the principles of international law derived from established custom, from the principles of humanity and from the dictates of public conscience.

Principle 13
General protection of the environment during armed conflict

1. The environment shall be respected and protected in accordance with applicable international law and, in particular, the law of armed conflict.

2. Subject to applicable international law:

(a) Care shall be taken to protect the environment against widespread, long-term and severe damage;

(b) The use of methods and means of warfare that are intended, or may be expected, to cause widespread, long-term and severe damage to the environment is prohibited.

3. No part of the environment may be attacked, unless it has become a military objective.

Principle 14
Application of the law of armed conflict to the environment

The law of armed conflict, including the principles and rules on distinction, proportionality and precautions, shall be applied to the environment, with a view to its protection.

Principle 15
Prohibition of reprisals

Attacks against the environment by way of reprisals are prohibited.

Principle 16
Prohibition of pillage

Pillage of natural resources is prohibited.

Principle 17
Environmental modification techniques

In accordance with their international obligations, States shall not engage in military or any other hostile use of environmental modification techniques having widespread, long-lasting or severe effects as the means of destruction, damage or injury to any other State.

Principle 18
Protected zones

An area of environmental importance, including where that area is of cultural importance, designated by agreement as a protected zone shall be protected against any attack, except insofar as it contains a military objective. Such protected zone shall benefit from any additional agreed protections.

Part four
Principles applicable in situations of occupation

Principle 19
General environmental obligations of an occupying Power

1. An occupying Power shall respect and protect the environment of the occupied territory in accordance with applicable international law and take environmental considerations into account in the administration of such territory.

2. An occupying Power shall take appropriate measures to prevent significant harm to the environment of the occupied territory, including harm that is likely to prejudice the health and well-being of protected persons of the occupied territory or otherwise violate their rights.

3. An occupying Power shall respect the law and institutions of the occupied territory concerning the protection of the environment and may only introduce changes within the limits provided by the law of armed conflict.

Principle 20
Sustainable use of natural resources

To the extent that an occupying Power is permitted to administer and use the natural resources in an occupied territory, for the benefit of the protected population of the occupied territory and for other lawful purposes under the law of armed conflict, it shall do so in a way that ensures their sustainable use and minimizes harm to the environment.

Principle 21
Prevention of transboundary harm

An occupying Power shall take appropriate measures to ensure that activities in the occupied territory do not cause significant harm to the environment of other States or areas beyond national jurisdiction, or any area of the occupied State beyond the occupied territory.

Part five
Principles applicable after armed conflict

Principle 22
Peace processes

1. Parties to an armed conflict should, as part of the peace process, including where appropriate in peace agreements, address matters relating to the restoration and protection of the environment damaged as a result of the conflict.

2. Relevant international organizations should, where appropriate, play a facilitating role in this regard.

Principle 23
Sharing and granting access to information

1. To facilitate measures to remediate harm to the environment resulting from an armed conflict, States and relevant international organizations shall share and grant access to relevant information in accordance with their obligations under applicable international law.

2. Nothing in paragraph 1 affects the right to invoke the grounds for refusal to share or grant access to information provided for in applicable international law. Nevertheless, States and international organizations shall cooperate in good faith with a view to providing as much information as possible under the circumstances.

Principle 24
Post-armed conflict environmental assessments and remedial measures

Relevant actors, including States and international organizations, should cooperate with respect to post-armed conflict environmental assessments and remedial measures.

Principle 25
Relief and assistance

When, in relation to an armed conflict, the source of environmental damage is unidentified, or reparation is unavailable, States and relevant international organizations should take appropriate measures so that the damage does not remain unrepaired or uncompensated, and may consider establishing special compensation funds or providing other forms of relief or assistance.

Principle 26
Remnants of war

1. Parties to an armed conflict shall seek, as soon as possible, to remove or render harmless toxic or other hazardous remnants of war under their jurisdiction or control that are causing or risk causing damage to the environment. Such measures shall be taken subject to the applicable rules of international law.

2. The parties shall also endeavour to reach agreement, among themselves and, where appropriate, with other States and with international organizations, on technical and material assistance, including, in appropriate circumstances, the undertaking of joint operations to remove or render harmless such toxic or other hazardous remnants of war.

3. Paragraphs 1 and 2 are without prejudice to any rights or obligations under international law to clear, remove, destroy or maintain minefields, mined areas, mines, booby-traps, explosive ordnance and other devices.

Principle 27
Remnants of war at sea

States and relevant international organizations should cooperate to ensure that remnants of war at sea do not constitute a danger to the environment.

RESOLUTION 77/105

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/417, para. 8)[90]

77/105. Diplomatic protection

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/67 of 6 December 2007, the annex to which contains the text of the articles on diplomatic protection, commending the articles to the attention of Governments,

Recalling also that the International Law Commission decided to recommend to the General Assembly the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the articles on diplomatic protection,[91]

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the subject of diplomatic protection is of major importance in relations between States,

Noting also the views expressed that there was a close connection between the draft articles on diplomatic protection and the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts,[92] and the observations of the Commission in this regard,[93]

Taking into account the comments and observations of Governments[94] and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee, at the sixty-second, sixty-fifth, sixty-eighth, seventy-first, seventy-fourth and seventy-seventh sessions of the General Assembly, on diplomatic protection,

1. *Commends once again* the articles on diplomatic protection[95] to the attention of Governments, and invites them to submit in writing to the Secretary-General any further comments, including comments concerning the recommendation by the International Law Commission to elaborate a convention on the basis of the articles;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session the item entitled "Diplomatic protection" and, taking into account the written comments submitted to the Secretary-General, as well as the views expressed in the debates held at the sixty-second, sixty-fifth, sixty-eighth, seventy-first, seventy-fourth and seventy-seventh sessions of the General Assembly, to continue to examine the question of a convention on diplomatic protection, or any other appropriate action, on the basis of the articles on diplomatic protection, with a view to identifying any difference of opinion on the articles;

3. *Encourages* all Member States to continue the substantive dialogue on an informal basis during the period prior to the eightieth session of the General Assembly.

RESOLUTION 77/106

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/418, para. 7)[96]

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[90] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Senegal on behalf of the Bureau.

[91] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/61/10), para. 46.

[92] Resolution 56/83, annex.

[93] See *Yearbook of the International Law Commission, 2006*, vol. II (Part Two), para. 50, "Diplomatic protection", para. (1).

[94] See A/62/118, A/62/118/Add.1, A/65/182, A/65/182/Add.1, A/68/115, A/68/115/Add.1, A/71/93, A/71/93/Corr.1, A/74/143 and A/77/261.

[95] Resolution 62/67, annex.

[96] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Czechia on behalf of the Bureau.

77/106. Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/82 of 12 December 2001, 61/36 of 4 December 2006, the annex to which contains the text of the principles on the allocation of loss in the case of transboundary harm arising out of hazardous activities, and 62/68 of 6 December 2007, the annex to which contains the text of the articles on prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities, as well as 65/28 of 6 December 2010, 68/114 of 16 December 2013, 71/143 of 13 December 2016 and 74/189 of 18 December 2019,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that the questions of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm are of major importance in relations between States,

Taking into account the views and comments expressed in the Sixth Committee at previous sessions and at the current session of the General Assembly,[97]

1. *Commends once again* the articles on prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities, the text of which is annexed to General Assembly resolution 62/68, to the attention of Governments, without prejudice to any future action, as recommended by the International Law Commission regarding the articles;

2. *Also commends once again* the principles on the allocation of loss in the case of transboundary harm arising out of hazardous activities, the text of which is annexed to General Assembly resolution 61/36, to the attention of Governments, without prejudice to any future action, as recommended by the Commission regarding the principles;

3. *Invites* Governments to submit further comments on any future action, in particular on the form of the respective articles and principles, bearing in mind the recommendations made by the Commission in that regard, including in relation to the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the articles, as well as on any practice in relation to the application of the articles and principles;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies referring to the articles and the principles;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eighty-second session the item entitled "Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm".

RESOLUTION 77/107

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/419, para. 7)[98]

[97] See A/C.6/56/SR.11–13, A/C.6/56/SR.15–19, A/C.6/56/SR.22, A/C.6/56/SR.23, A/C.6/61/SR.9–16, A/C.6/61/SR.18, A/C.6/61/SR.19, A/C.6/61/SR.21, A/C.6/62/SR.12, A/C.6/62/SR.28, A/C.6/65/SR.17, A/C.6/65/SR.27, A/C.6/68/SR.16, A/C.6/68/SR.28, A/C.6/68/SR.29, A/C.6/71/SR.18, A/C.6/74/SR.21, A/C.6/77/SR.18, A/C.6/77/SR.32 and A/C.6/77/SR.34. See also the reports of the Secretary-General containing comments and observations received from Governments (A/65/184, A/65/184/Add.1, A/68/170, A/71/136, A/71/136/Add.1, A/74/131, A/74/131/Add.1 and A/77/148) and the reports of the Secretary-General containing a compilation of decisions of international courts, tribunals and other bodies (A/68/94, A/71/98, A/74/132 and A/77/147).

[98] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

77/107. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

The General Assembly,

Recalling its biennial resolutions on the status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, including its resolution 75/138 of 15 December 2020,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[99]

Reaffirming the continuing value of established humanitarian rules relating to armed conflicts and the need to respect and ensure respect for those rules in all circumstances within the scope of the relevant international instruments, pending the earliest possible termination of such conflicts,

Stressing the need to consolidate the existing body of international humanitarian law through its universal acceptance and the need for wide dissemination and full implementation of such law at the national level, and expressing concern about all violations of the Geneva Conventions of 1949[100] and the Additional Protocols,[101]

Calling upon Member States to disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law as widely as possible, and calling upon all parties to armed conflict to apply international humanitarian law,

Noting with satisfaction the increasing number of national commissions and other bodies involved in advising authorities at the national level on the implementation, dissemination and development of international humanitarian law,

Noting with appreciation the meetings of representatives of those bodies organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross, together with relevant partners such as national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, to facilitate the sharing of concrete experience and the exchange of views on their roles and on the challenges that they face,

Welcoming the important role of relevant regional forums in promoting respect for international humanitarian law and disseminating knowledge of international humanitarian law in the respective regions,

Stressing the possibility of making use of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in relation to an armed conflict, pursuant to article 90 of Protocol I[102] to the Geneva Conventions,

Stressing also the possibility for the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission to facilitate, through its good offices, the restoration of an attitude of respect for the Geneva Conventions and Protocol I,

Taking note of the fact that the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission conducted its first operational mission in 2017,

Taking note also of the fact that, in paragraphs 8 and 9 of its resolution 1894 (2009) of 11 November 2009 on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, the Security Council noted the range of existing methods used, on a case-by-case basis, for gathering information on alleged violations of applicable international law relating to the protection of civilians, underlined the importance in that regard of receiving information that is timely, objective, accurate and reliable, and considered the possibility, to that end, of using the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission established by article 90 of Protocol I,

Noting with appreciation the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in facilitating and offering protection to the victims of armed conflicts,

Noting with appreciation also the continuing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross to promote and disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions and the Additional Protocols,

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[99] A/77/264.

[100] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[101] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513, and vol. 2404, No. 43425.

[102] Ibid., vol. 1125, No. 17512.

Noting the special responsibilities of national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, as auxiliaries to the public authorities of their respective States in the humanitarian field, to cooperate with and assist their Governments in the promotion, dissemination and implementation of international humanitarian law,

Welcoming the universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,

Emphasizing the fundamentally non-discriminatory character of international humanitarian law, including as reflected in the preamble to the 1977 Additional Protocol I to the 1949 Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts, which, inter alia, reaffirms that the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and of Additional Protocol I must be fully applied in all circumstances to all persons who are protected by those instruments, without any adverse distinction based on the origin of the armed conflict or on the causes espoused by or attributed to the parties to the conflict,

Taking note with appreciation of Security Council resolution 2573 (2021) of 27 April 2021 on the protection of civilian objects in armed conflict, including objects indispensable to the survival of the civilian population and objects critical to the delivery of essential services to the civilian population,

Taking note with appreciation also of Security Council resolution 2601 (2021) of 29 October 2021 on the protection of children affected by armed conflict and facilitating the continuation and protection of education in armed conflict,

Recalling the imperative need to improve compliance with international humanitarian law,

Noting the close cooperation between the International Committee of the Red Cross and States to further strengthen international humanitarian law protecting persons deprived of their liberty in relation to armed conflict,

Welcoming efforts by States to implement their obligations under international humanitarian law, as well as programmes and other measures of States and their armed forces that promote or ensure compliance with international humanitarian law,

Noting the work undertaken by States and by the International Committee of the Red Cross in relation to sexual and gender-based violence in armed conflict,

Noting also the work undertaken by States, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other actors in the "Health Care in Danger" project to improve the protection of the provision of and access to health care,

Noting with appreciation Security Council resolution 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016, and in this regard calling upon all parties to armed conflict to respect and protect the wounded and sick, as well as health-care personnel, humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties and their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities, in armed conflict, in accordance with their obligations under international humanitarian law,

Noting with appreciation also Security Council resolution 2222 (2015) of 27 May 2015 on the protection of journalists, media professionals and associated personnel in situations of armed conflict,

Noting the serious concern expressed by States regarding the humanitarian impact caused by cluster munitions, and noting the entry into force of the Convention on Cluster Munitions[103] on 1 August 2010,

Noting also the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty[104] on 24 December 2014,

Welcoming the important contribution to the protection of victims of armed conflicts made by the significant debate generated by the publication in 2005 of the study by the International Committee of the Red Cross on customary international humanitarian law, as well as other recent initiatives by the Committee, welcoming also its efforts to update regularly its customary international humanitarian law database, and looking forward to further constructive discussion on the subject,

[103] Ibid., vol. 2688, No. 47713.

[104] Ibid., vol. 3013, No. 52373.

Acknowledging the fact that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[105] covers the most serious crimes of international concern under international humanitarian law and that the Rome Statute, while recalling that it is the duty of every State to exercise its criminal jurisdiction over those responsible for such crimes, shows the determination of the international community to put an end to impunity for the perpetrators of such crimes and thus to contribute to their prevention,

Noting the amendments to article 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, relating to war crimes under the Rome Statute, adopted on 10 June 2010 at the Review Conference of the Rome Statute, held in Kampala from 31 May to 11 June 2010,[106]

Acknowledging the usefulness of discussing in the General Assembly the status of instruments of international humanitarian law relevant to the protection of victims of armed conflicts,

1. *Welcomes* the universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949, and notes the trend towards a similarly wide acceptance of the two Additional Protocols of 1977;[107]

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Geneva Conventions that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Additional Protocols at the earliest possible date;

3. *Calls upon* all States that are already parties to Protocol I, or those States not parties, upon becoming parties to Protocol I, to make the declaration provided for under article 90 of that Protocol and to consider making use, where appropriate, of the services of the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission in accordance with the provisions of article 90 of Protocol I;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the two Protocols thereto[108] and to other relevant treaties on international humanitarian law relating to the protection of victims of armed conflict;

5. *Calls upon* States to consider becoming parties to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;[109]

6. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions to ensure their wide dissemination and full implementation;

7. *Affirms* the necessity of making the implementation of international humanitarian law more effective, and supports its further strengthening and development;

8. *Notes with appreciation* the eight resolutions adopted at the thirty-third International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, held in Geneva from 9 to 12 December 2019, in particular resolution 1, entitled "Bringing IHL home: a road map for better national implementation of international humanitarian law", and also notes with appreciation the subsequent publication of "Bringing IHL home: guidelines on the national implementation of international humanitarian law" by the International Committee of the Red Cross;

9. *Calls upon* Member States to actively participate in the thirty-fourth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, to be held in Geneva in 2024;

10. *Welcomes* the activities of the Advisory Service on International Humanitarian Law of the International Committee of the Red Cross in supporting efforts made by Member States to take legislative and administrative action to implement international humanitarian law and in promoting the exchange of information on those efforts between Governments, and reminds Member States of the availability of the manual on domestic implementation of international humanitarian law;

11. *Also welcomes* the increasing number of national commissions or committees for the implementation of international humanitarian law and their work in promoting the incorporation of treaties on international humanitarian

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[105] Ibid., vol. 2187, No. 38544.

[106] Ibid., vol. 2868, No. 38544.

[107] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[108] Ibid., vol. 249, No. 3511, and vol. 2253, No. 3511.

[109] Ibid., vol. 2173, No. 27531.

law into national law and disseminating the rules of international humanitarian law, and encourages Member States that have not yet done so to consider establishing national commissions or committees, with the support of national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies where relevant, to advise and assist Governments in implementing and disseminating knowledge of international humanitarian law;

12. *Commends* the International Committee of the Red Cross for organizing the fifth Universal Meeting of National Committees and Similar Entities on International Humanitarian Law, held online from 29 November to 2 December 2021, and invites the International Committee to continue to organize such meetings;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a comprehensive report on the status of the Additional Protocols relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, as well as on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law, inter alia, with respect to its dissemination and full implementation at the national level, based on information received from Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

14. *Encourages* Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross, in transmitting information to the Secretary-General, to focus on new developments and activities during the reporting period;

15. *Welcomes* the increasing trend of voluntary submissions transmitted to the Secretary-General, as requested in paragraph 12 of resolution 75/138, and encourages Member States to participate in the submission process at the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly;

16. *Encourages* Member States to explore ways of facilitating the submission of information for future reports of the Secretary-General and, in this context, to consider the convenience of using a questionnaire as drafted by Member States, with the assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross and, as appropriate, in consultation with the Secretariat, for submission to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled "Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts".

RESOLUTION 77/108

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/420, para. 8)[110]

77/108. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[111]

Conscious of the need to develop and strengthen friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Convinced that respect for the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations, including those derived from the principle of sovereign equality of States, is a basic prerequisite for the normal conduct of relations among States and for the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Alarmed by the new and recurring acts of violence against diplomatic and consular representatives, as well as against representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, which endanger or take innocent lives and seriously impede the normal work of such representatives and officials,

Expressing sympathy for the victims of such illegal acts,

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[110] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Sweden and Switzerland.

[111] A/77/208.

Recalling that, to the extent provided by the relevant rules of international law, premises of diplomatic missions, consular premises and premises of permanent missions with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations, as well as private residences of relevant members of diplomatic missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations, shall be inviolable and that, to the extent consistent with the relevant rules of international law, agents of the receiving State shall not enter them, except with the consent of the sending State,

Noting that diplomatic and consular missions may maintain archives and documents in various forms, that official correspondence may take a variety of forms and that diplomatic and consular missions may use a variety of means of communication,

Recalling that the archives and documents of diplomatic and consular missions shall be inviolable at any time and wherever they may be and that the official correspondence of diplomatic and consular missions shall be inviolable,

Recalling also that States shall permit and protect free communication of diplomatic and consular missions for all official purposes and that diplomatic and consular missions may employ all appropriate means in communicating with their Governments and other diplomatic and consular missions of their State, wherever situated,

Concerned at the failure to respect the inviolability of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives and, as appropriate, their family members, as well as of permanent missions and, as appropriate, relevant representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and their family members,

Recalling that, without prejudice to their privileges and immunities, it is the duty of all persons enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State,

Recalling also that diplomatic and consular premises must not be used in any manner incompatible with the functions of diplomatic and consular missions,

Emphasizing the duty of States to take all appropriate measures, as required by international law, in a timely manner, for the protection of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, including measures of a preventive nature, and to bring offenders to justice,

Welcoming measures already taken by States to this end in conformity with their international obligations,

Recognizing that measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as close cooperation between States in this regard, are particularly important in the light of the challenges posed by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Convinced that the role of the United Nations, which includes the reporting procedures established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/168 of 15 December 1980 and further elaborated in subsequent Assembly resolutions, is important in promoting efforts to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;

2. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as against missions and representatives to international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, and emphasizes that such acts can never be justified;

3. *Urges* States to strictly observe, implement and enforce, including during a period of armed conflict, all the applicable principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations, including those relating to inviolability, and, in particular, to ensure, in conformity with their international obligations, the protection, security and safety of the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above officially present in territories under their jurisdiction, including practical measures to prevent and prohibit in their territories illegal activities of persons, groups and organizations that encourage, instigate, organize or engage in the perpetration of acts against the security and safety of such missions, representatives and officials;

4. *Also urges* States to take all appropriate measures at the national and international levels to prevent any acts of violence against the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, including during a period of armed conflict, and to ensure, with the participation of the United Nations where appropriate, that such acts are fully investigated with a view to bringing offenders to justice;

5. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely through, inter alia, contacts between the diplomatic and consular missions and the receiving State with regard to practical measures designed to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, including measures of a preventive nature, and with regard to the timely exchange of information on the circumstances of all serious violations thereof;

6. *Urges* States to strictly comply with the applicable rules of international law governing the protection and inviolability of premises of diplomatic missions, consular premises and premises of permanent missions with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

7. *Also urges* States to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law, at the national and international levels, to prevent any abuse of diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, in particular serious abuses, including those involving acts of violence;

8. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely with the State in whose territory abuses of diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may have occurred, including by exchanging information and providing assistance to its juridical authorities in order to bring offenders to justice;

9. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the instruments relevant to the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives;

10. *Calls upon* States, in cases where a dispute arises in connection with a violation of their international obligations concerning the protection of the missions, their archives and premises or the security of the representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, to make use of the means available for peaceful settlement of disputes, including the good offices of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General, when he deems it appropriate, to offer his good offices to the States directly concerned;

11. *Urges*:

(a) All States to report to the Secretary-General, in a concise and expeditious manner and in accordance with the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General,[112] serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

(b) The State in which the violation took place – and, to the extent possible, the State where the alleged offender is present – to report to the Secretary-General, in a concise and expeditious manner and in accordance with the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General, on measures taken to bring the offender to justice and to communicate, in accordance with its laws, the final outcome of the proceedings against the offender, and to report on measures adopted with a view to preventing a repetition of such violations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To send, without delay, a circular note to all States reminding them of the request contained in paragraph 11 above;

(b) To circulate to all States, upon receipt, the reports received by him pursuant to paragraph 11 above, unless the reporting State requests otherwise;

(c) To draw the attention, when appropriate, of the States directly concerned to the reporting procedures provided for in paragraph 11 above, when a serious violation has been reported pursuant to paragraph 11 (a) above;

(d) To address reminders to States where such violations have occurred if reports pursuant to paragraph 11 (a) above or follow-up reports pursuant to paragraph 11 (b) above have not been made within a reasonable period of time;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite States, in the circular note referred to in paragraph 12 (a) above, to inform him of their views with respect to any measures needed or already taken to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

[112] A/42/485, annex.

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report containing:

(a) Information on the state of ratification of and accessions to the instruments referred to in paragraph 9 above;

(b) A summary of the reports received and views expressed pursuant to paragraphs 11 and 13 above;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly any views he may wish to express on the matters referred to in paragraph 14 above;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives".

RESOLUTION 77/109

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/421, para. 10)[113]

77/109. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

Recalling also its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters related to the Security Council,[114]

Recalling the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Recalling also its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

Concerned about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying-out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Council,

Recalling the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

Recalling also that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

[113] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Egypt on behalf of the Bureau.

[114] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/63/47).

Mindful of the adoption of the revised working papers on the working methods of the Special Committee,[115]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "*Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*",[116]

Recalling paragraphs 106 to 110, 176 and 177 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[117]

Mindful of the decision of the Special Committee in which it expressed its readiness to engage, as appropriate, in the implementation of any decisions that might be taken at the high-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly in September 2005 that concerned the Charter and any amendments thereto,[118]

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998, 54/107 of 9 December 1999, 55/157 of 12 December 2000, 56/87 of 12 December 2001, 57/25 of 19 November 2002, 58/80 of 9 December 2003 and 59/45 of 2 December 2004,

Recalling also its resolution 64/115 of 16 December 2009 and the document entitled "Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations" annexed thereto,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2022,[119]

Noting with appreciation the work done by the Special Committee to encourage States to focus on the need to prevent and to settle peacefully their disputes which are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 21 February to 1 March 2023;

3. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2023, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(a) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2023, including strengthening the relationship and cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations or arrangements in the peaceful settlement of disputes;

(b) To keep on its agenda the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States;

(c) To consider, as appropriate, any proposal referred to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the decisions of the high-level plenary meeting of the sixtieth session of the Assembly in September 2005 that concern the Charter and any amendments thereto;

(d) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency and utilization of resources with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with paragraph 3 of the annex to resolution 71/146 of 13 December 2016, to brief the Special Committee at its next session on the document entitled "Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations" contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 64/115;

5. *Recalls* its decision, in its resolution 72/118 of 7 December 2017, to undertake an annual thematic debate in the Special Committee, under the agenda item on the peaceful settlement of disputes, to discuss the means for the settlement of disputes, in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter, including in particular those contained in

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[115] Ibid., *Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/61/33), para. 72.

[116] A/77/303.

[117] Resolution 60/1.

[118] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixtieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/60/33), para. 77.

[119] Ibid., *Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/77/33).

Article 33 thereof, and consistent with the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes,[120] and in that regard:

(a) Invites Member States to focus their comments during the thematic debate, to be held at the next session of the Special Committee, at the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, on the subtopic "Exchange of information on State practices regarding the resort to regional agencies or arrangements", while ensuring that the other means of dispute settlement will be discussed at the subsequent sessions of the Special Committee;

(b) Bearing in mind Article 33 (1) of the Charter of the United Nations, also invites Member States to consider for future thematic debates in the next sessions of the Special Committee the following other peaceful means in an indicative and non-exhaustive manner, and based on State practices, in the following consecutive order: good offices; procedures envisaged in the Charter and other international instruments; adaptation or combination of traditional means; exchange of information and communication; and Implementation and Compliance Committees;

(c) Further invites Member States to comment on the subtopics of the annual debate in their general statements with a view to having the texts of those statements posted on the website of the Special Committee;[121]

(d) Calls upon the Special Committee to include a summary of the subtopics of the annual debate in its annual report for further consideration;

6. *Also recalls* its endorsement of the decisions and recommendations adopted by the Special Committee at its 2016 session, in particular as set forth in paragraphs 2 and 3 of the annex to resolution 71/146;

7. *Invites* the Special Committee, at its session in 2023, to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations;

8. *Notes* the readiness of the Special Committee to provide, within its mandate, such assistance as may be sought at the request of other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in relation to any issues before them;

9. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

10. *Recognizes* the important role of the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, in adjudicating disputes among States and the value of its work, as well as the importance of having recourse to the Court in the peaceful settlement of disputes, notes that, consistent with Article 96 of the Charter, the Court's advisory jurisdiction may be requested by the General Assembly, the Security Council or other authorized organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and requests the Secretary-General to distribute, in due course, the advisory opinions requested by the principal organs of the United Nations as official documents of the United Nations;

11. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the progress made in the preparation of studies for the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, including the use of the internship programme of the United Nations and cooperation with academic institutions for this purpose, as well as the progress made towards updating the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

12. *Further encourages* Member States to identify academic institutions that have the capacity to contribute to the preparation of studies for the *Repertory* and to provide the contact details of such institutions, and in this regard further welcomes the initiative of the Secretariat also to invite members of the International Law Commission to recommend academic institutions that the Secretariat could contact for this purpose;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the contributions made by Member States to the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory* and to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire*, as well as other contributions, including the sponsoring of associate experts to assist in the updating of the *Repertoire*;

14. *Reiterates its call for* voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the elimination of the backlog in the *Repertory* so as to further support the Secretariat in carrying out the effective elimination of that backlog; voluntary contributions to the trust fund for the updating of the *Repertoire* so as to sustain the annual publication schedule; and

[120] Resolution 37/10, annex.

[121] http://legal.un.org/committees/charter.

the sponsoring, on a voluntary basis and with no cost to the United Nations, of associate experts to assist in the updating of the two publications;

15. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts towards updating the two publications and making them available electronically in all their respective language versions, and encourages the continued updating of the websites for the *Repertory*[122] and for the *Repertoire*;[123]

16. *Notes with concern* that the backlog in the preparation of all volumes of the *Repertory*, in particular volume III, although slightly reduced, has not been eliminated, and calls upon the Secretary-General to address that issue effectively and on a priority basis, while commending the Secretary-General for progress made in reducing the backlog;

17. *Reiterates* the responsibility of the Secretary-General for the quality of the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*, and with regard to the *Repertoire* calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to follow the modalities outlined in paragraphs 102 to 106 of his report dated 18 September 1952;[124]

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on both the *Repertory* and the *Repertoire*;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

RESOLUTION 77/110

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/422, para. 8)[125]

77/110. The rule of law at the national and international levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 76/117 of 9 December 2021,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which are indispensable foundations of a more peaceful, prosperous and just world, and reiterating its determination to foster strict respect for them and to establish a just and lasting peace all over the world,

Reaffirming that human rights, the rule of law and democracy are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and that they belong to the universal and indivisible core values and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels and its solemn commitment to an international order based on the rule of law and international law, which, together with the principles of justice, is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

Bearing in mind that the activities of the United Nations carried out in support of efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate the rule of law are undertaken in accordance with the Charter, and stressing the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building,

Convinced that the advancement of the rule of law at the national and international levels is essential for the realization of sustained economic growth, sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and hunger and the

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[122] http://legal.un.org/repertory.

[123] www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/repertoire/structure.

[124] A/2170.

[125] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Mexico on behalf of the Bureau.

protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and acknowledging that collective security depends on effective cooperation, in accordance with the Charter and international law, against transnational threats,

Reaffirming the duty of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered, in accordance with Chapter VI of the Charter, and calling upon States that have not yet done so to consider accepting the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in accordance with its Statute,

Recalling that the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations[126] was adopted in 1970,

Convinced that the promotion of and respect for the rule of law at the national and international levels, as well as justice and good governance, should guide the activities of the United Nations and its Member States,

Recalling paragraph 134 (e) of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[127]

Noting the tenth anniversary of the declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/1 of 24 September 2012, without a vote,

1. *Recalls* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the rule of law at the national and international levels, held during the high-level segment of its sixty-seventh session, and the declaration adopted at that meeting,[128] takes note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 41 of the declaration,[129] and requests the Sixth Committee to continue its consideration of ways and means of further developing the linkages between the rule of law and the three pillars of the United Nations;

2. *Acknowledges* the efforts to strengthen the rule of law through voluntary pledges, encourages all States to consider making pledges, individually or jointly, based on their national priorities, and also encourages those States that have made pledges to continue to exchange information, knowledge and best practices in this regard;

3. *Takes note* of the annual report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities;[130]

4. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to accord high priority to rule of law activities;

5. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in encouraging the progressive development of international law and its codification, and further reaffirms that States shall abide by all of their obligations under international law;

6. *Also reaffirms* the imperative of upholding and promoting the rule of law at the international level in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and in this regard recalls the importance of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Further reaffirms* its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[131] and recalls that the goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development;

8. *Recognizes* the role of multilateral and bilateral treaties and treaty processes in advancing the rule of law, and encourages States to further consider the promotion of treaties in areas where international cooperation could benefit from treaties;

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[126] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[127] Resolution 60/1.

[128] Resolution 67/1.

[129] A/68/213/Add.1.

[130] A/77/213.

[131] Resolution 70/1.

9. *Welcomes* the dialogue initiated by the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General with Member States on the topic "Promoting the rule of law at the international level", and calls for the continuation of this dialogue with a view to fostering the rule of law at the international level;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to the furtherance of United Nations rule of law programmes and activities, emphasizes that further technical assistance and capacity-building initiatives, focused on increasing and improving the participation of Member States in the multilateral treaty process, should be examined, and invites States to support these activities;

11. *Stresses* the importance of adherence to the rule of law at the national level and the need to strengthen support to Member States, upon their request, in the domestic implementation of their respective international obligations through enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building in order to develop, reinforce and maintain domestic institutions active in the promotion of rule of law at the national and international levels, subject to national ownership, strategies and priorities;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure greater coordination and coherence among the United Nations entities and with donors and recipients, and reiterates its call for greater evaluation of the effectiveness of such activities, including possible measures to improve the effectiveness of those capacity-building activities;

13. *Calls*, in this context, for dialogue to be enhanced among all stakeholders, with a view to placing national perspectives at the centre of rule of law assistance in order to strengthen national ownership, while recognizing that rule of law activities must be anchored in a national context and that States have different national experiences in the development of their systems of the rule of law, taking into account their legal, political, socioeconomic, cultural, religious and other local specificities, while also recognizing that there are common features founded on international norms and standards;

14. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to systematically address, as appropriate, aspects of the rule of law in relevant activities, including the participation of women in rule of law-related activities, recognizing the importance of the rule of law to virtually all areas of United Nations engagement;

15. *Expresses full support* for the overall coordination and coherence role of the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group within the United Nations system, within existing mandates, supported by the Rule of Law Unit and under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, in a timely manner, his next annual report on United Nations rule of law activities, in accordance with paragraph 5 of its resolution 63/128 of 11 December 2008, addressing, in a balanced manner, the national and international dimensions of the rule of law;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of restoring confidence in the rule of law as a key element of transitional justice;

18. *Recalls* the commitment of Member States to take all necessary steps to provide fair, transparent, effective, non-discriminatory and accountable services that promote access to justice for all, including legal aid, encourages further dialogue and the sharing of national practices and expertise in strengthening the rule of law through access to justice, including with regard to the provision of birth registration for all, appropriate registration and documentation of refugees, migrants, asylum seekers and stateless persons, and legal aid, where appropriate, in both criminal and civil proceedings, and in this regard recognizes the role of knowledge and technology, including in judicial systems, and stresses the need to intensify the assistance extended to Governments upon their request;

19. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the sharing of national practices and of inclusive dialogue, welcomes the proposals made by the Secretary-General, inviting Member States to voluntarily exchange national best practices on the rule of law in informal meetings and on an electronic depository of best practices on the United Nations rule of law website, and invites Member States to do so;

20. *Invites* the International Court of Justice, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and the International Law Commission to continue to comment, in their respective reports to the General Assembly, on their current roles in promoting the rule of law;

21. *Invites* the Rule of Law Coordination and Resource Group and the Rule of Law Unit to continue their dialogue with all Member States by interacting with them in a regular, transparent and inclusive manner, in particular in informal briefings;

22. *Stresses* the need for the Rule of Law Unit to carry out its tasks in an effective and sustainable manner and the need to provide it with reasonable means required to that effect;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "The rule of law at the national and international levels", and invites Member States to focus their comments during the upcoming Sixth Committee debate on the subtopic "Using technology to advance access to justice for all".

RESOLUTION 77/111

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/423, para. 9)[132]

77/111. The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to international law and to an international order based on the rule of law, which is essential for peaceful coexistence and cooperation among States,

Recalling its resolutions 64/117 of 16 December 2009, 65/33 of 6 December 2010, 66/103 of 9 December 2011, 67/98 of 14 December 2012, 68/117 of 16 December 2013, 69/124 of 10 December 2014, 70/119 of 14 December 2015, 71/149 of 13 December 2016, 72/120 of 7 December 2017, 73/208 of 20 December 2018, 74/192 of 18 December 2019, 75/142 of 15 December 2020 and 76/118 of 9 December 2021,

Taking into account the comments and observations of Governments and observers and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee at the sixty-fourth to seventy-seventh sessions of the General Assembly on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction,[133]

Noting the constructive dialogue in the Sixth Committee, including in the context of its working group, recognizing the diversity of views expressed by States, including concerns expressed in relation to the abuse or misuse of the principle of universal jurisdiction, and acknowledging, in order to make progress, the need for continuing discussions on the scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction in the Sixth Committee,

Noting also the decision of the International Law Commission at its seventieth session to recommend the inclusion of the topic "Universal criminal jurisdiction" in its long-term programme of work,

Reiterating its commitment to fighting impunity, and noting the views expressed by States that the legitimacy and credibility of the use of universal jurisdiction are best ensured by its responsible and judicious application consistent with international law,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General prepared on the basis of comments and observations of Governments and relevant observers;[134]

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[132] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Mauritius on behalf of the Bureau.

[133] See A/C.6/64/SR.12, A/C.6/64/SR.13, A/C.6/64/SR.25, A/C.6/64/SR.1–28/Corrigendum, A/C.6/65/SR.10, A/C.6/65/SR.11, A/C.6/65/SR.12, A/C.6/65/SR.27, A/C.6/65/SR.28, A/C.6/66/SR.12, A/C.6/66/SR.13, A/C.6/66/SR.17, A/C.6/66/SR.29, A/C.6/67/SR.12, A/C.6/67/SR.13, A/C.6/67/SR.24, A/C.6/67/SR.25, A/C.6/68/SR.12, A/C.6/68/SR.13, A/C.6/68/SR.14, A/C.6/68/SR.23, A/C.6/69/SR.11, A/C.6/69/SR.12, A/C.6/69/SR.28, A/C.6/70/SR.12, A/C.6/70/SR.13, A/C.6/70/SR.27, A/C.6/71/SR.13, A/C.6/71/SR.14, A/C.6/71/SR.15, A/C.6/71/SR.31, A/C.6/72/SR.13, A/C.6/72/SR.14, A/C.6/72/SR.28, A/C.6/73/SR.10, A/C.6/73/SR.11, A/C.6/73/SR.12, A/C.6/73/SR.33, A/C.6/74/SR.14, A/C.6/74/SR.15, A/C.6/74/SR.16, A/C.6/74/SR.17, A/C.6/75/SR.11, A/C.6/75/SR.12, A/C.6/76/SR.14, A/C.6/76/SR.15, A/C.6/77/SR.12 and A/C.6/77/SR.13.

[134] A/77/186; see also A/65/181, A/66/93, A/66/93/Add.1, A/67/116, A/68/113, A/69/174, A/70/125, A/71/111, A/72/112, A/73/123, A/73/123/Add.1, A/74/144, A/75/151 and A/76/203.

2. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee shall continue its consideration of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, without prejudice to the consideration of this topic and related issues in other forums of the United Nations, and for this purpose decides to establish, at its seventy-ninth session, a working group of the Sixth Committee to continue to undertake a thorough discussion of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction;

3. *Invites* the working group of the Sixth Committee, to be established at its seventy-ninth session, to consider and comment on the question "on the relevant elements of a working concept of universal jurisdiction";

4. *Invites* Member States and relevant observers to the General Assembly, as appropriate, to submit, before 28 April 2023, information and observations on the scope and application of universal jurisdiction, including, where appropriate, information on the relevant applicable international treaties and on their national legal rules and judicial practice, requests the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report based on such information and observations, and also requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Assembly at its seventy-ninth session reviewing all the submissions of Member States and relevant observers, as well as views expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee, since the sixty-second session of the Assembly and identifying possible convergences and divergences on the definition, scope and application of universal jurisdiction for the consideration of the Committee;

5. *Decides* that the working group shall be open to all Member States and that relevant observers to the General Assembly will be invited to participate in the work of the working group;

6. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction".

RESOLUTION 77/112

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/424, para. 7)[135]

77/112. The law of transboundary aquifers

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 63/124 of 11 December 2008, 66/104 of 9 December 2011, 68/118 of 16 December 2013, 71/150 of 13 December 2016 and 74/193 of 18 December 2019,

Noting the major importance of the subject of the law of transboundary aquifers in the relations of States and the need for reasonable and proper management of transboundary aquifers, a vitally important natural resource, through international cooperation for present and future generations,

Noting also that the provisions of the draft articles on the law of transboundary aquifers have been taken into account in relevant instruments such as the Guarani Aquifer Agreement signed by Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay on 2 August 2010, and the Model Provisions on Transboundary Groundwaters adopted by the sixth Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes on 29 November 2012,

Recognizing that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[136] includes a goal on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all,

Taking note of the High-level Panel on Water outcome document,[137]

Commending the efforts made by the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in order for the Member States to draw more attention to and to deepen understanding of the draft articles on the law of transboundary aquifers,[138] in particular through organizing a

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[135] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Israel on behalf of the Bureau.

[136] Resolution 70/1.

[137] High-level Panel on Water, "Making every drop count: an agenda for water action" (14 March 2018).

[138] Resolution 68/118, annex.

series of training courses on the application of the draft articles as well as compiling an inventory of and evaluating the world's transboundary aquifer systems,

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting the comments of Governments and the discussions held in the Sixth Committee at the sixty-third, sixty-sixth, sixty-eighth, seventy-first, seventy-fourth and seventy-seventh sessions of the General Assembly on this topic,[139]

1. *Commends* to the attention of Governments the draft articles on the law of transboundary aquifers annexed to its resolution 68/118 as guidance for bilateral or regional agreements and arrangements for the proper management of transboundary aquifers;

2. *Encourages* the Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its contribution by providing further scientific and technical assistance upon the consent of the recipient State and within its mandate;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eighty-first session the item entitled "The law of transboundary aquifers".

RESOLUTION 77/113

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/425, para. 9)[140]

77/113. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, in all its aspects, the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, adopted on 8 September 2006,[141] which enhances the overall framework for the efforts of the international community to effectively counter the scourge of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and recalling the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh reviews of the Strategy, on 4 and 5 September 2008, 8 September 2010, 28 and 29 June 2012, 12 and 13 June 2014, 30 June and 1 July 2016, 26 and 27 June 2018 and 30 June and 6 and 7 July 2021, respectively, and the debates that were held on those occasions,[142]

Recalling its resolutions 62/272 of 5 September 2008, 64/297 of 8 September 2010, 66/282 of 29 June 2012, 68/276 of 13 June 2014, 70/291 of 1 July 2016, 72/284 of 26 June 2018 and 75/291 of 30 June 2021,

Recalling also its resolution 66/10 of 18 November 2011,

Recalling further its resolution 73/305 of 28 June 2019 on the enhancement of international cooperation to assist victims of terrorism, and taking note with appreciation of the first United Nations Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism, held in New York on 8 and 9 September 2022,

Recalling its resolution 71/291 of 15 June 2017, by which it decided to establish the Office of Counter-Terrorism,

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[139] See A/C.6/63/SR.16, A/C.6/63/SR.17, A/C.6/63/SR.18, A/C.6/63/SR.19 and A/C.6/63/SR.26; A/C.6/66/SR.16 and A/C.6/66/SR.29; A/C.6/68/SR.16 and A/C.6/68/SR.29; A/C.6/71/SR.18, A/C.6/71/SR.19 and A/C.6/71/SR.33; A/C.6/74/SR.21; and A/C.6/77/SR.18, A/C.6/77/SR.19, A/C.6/77/SR.34 and A/C.6/77/SR.35. See also A/66/116, A/66/116/Add.1 and A/68/172.

[140] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced in the Committee by the representative of Canada on behalf of the Bureau.

[141] Resolution 60/288.

[142] See A/62/PV.117, A/62/PV.118, A/62/PV.119, A/62/PV.120, A/64/PV.116, A/64/PV.117, A/66/PV.118, A/66/PV.119, A/66/PV.120, A/68/PV.94, A/68/PV.95, A/68/PV.96, A/68/PV.97, A/70/PV.108, A/70/PV.109, A/70/PV.110, A/72/PV.101, A/72/PV.102, A/72/PV.103, A/75/PV.88, A/75/PV.89 and A/75/PV.90.

Recalling also the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations[143] and the declaration on the commemoration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations,[144]

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[145]

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[146] and reaffirming, in particular, the section on terrorism,

Recalling also the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996,

Recalling further all General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism and Security Council resolutions on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

Convinced of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

Reaffirming its strong condemnation of the heinous acts of terrorism that have caused enormous loss of human life, destruction and damage, including those which prompted the adoption of General Assembly resolution 56/1 of 12 September 2001, as well as Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001, and those that have occurred since,

Reaffirming also its strong condemnation of the atrocious and deliberate attacks that have occurred against United Nations offices in various parts of the world,

Affirming that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with all their obligations under international law and must adopt such measures in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Stressing the need to strengthen further international cooperation among States and among international organizations and agencies, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and the relevant international conventions,

Noting the role of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism in monitoring the implementation of that resolution, including the taking of the necessary financial, legal and technical measures by States and the ratification or acceptance of the relevant international conventions and protocols,

Mindful of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

Recalling the second United Nations High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States, held in New York from 28 to 30 June 2021, as part of the second Counter-Terrorism Week at the United Nations, held from 24 to 30 June 2021, the participants of which included representatives of Member States, international and regional organizations, civil society organizations and the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities,

Noting the intention of the Secretary-General to organize regional high-level conferences on counter-terrorism, and encouraging the Secretary-General to consult Member States in this regard,

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[143] Resolution 50/6.

[144] Resolution 75/1.

[145] Resolution 55/2.

[146] Resolution 60/1.

Mindful of the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation aimed at enhancing the national capacity of States to prevent and effectively suppress international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Encouraging women to continue to play an important role in countering terrorism,

Reiterating its call upon States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there is a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

Emphasizing that tolerance and dialogue among civilizations and the enhancement of interfaith and intercultural understanding are among the most important elements in promoting cooperation and success in combating terrorism, and welcoming the various initiatives to this end,

Aware of the need to address underlying conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism through a comprehensive approach,

Reaffirming that no terrorist act can be justified in any circumstances,

Reiterating that terrorism is a global phenomenon, which is not and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1624 (2005) of 14 September 2005, and bearing in mind that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Noting recent developments and initiatives at the international, regional and subregional levels to prevent and suppress international terrorism,

Noting also regional and subregional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of and adherence to regional conventions,

Recalling its decision in resolutions 54/110 of 9 December 1999, 55/158 of 12 December 2000, 56/88 of 12 December 2001, 57/27 of 19 November 2002, 58/81 of 9 December 2003, 59/46 of 2 December 2004, 60/43 of 8 December 2005, 61/40 of 4 December 2006, 62/71 of 6 December 2007, 63/129 of 11 December 2008, 64/118 of 16 December 2009, 65/34 of 6 December 2010, 66/105 of 9 December 2011 and 67/99 of 14 December 2012 that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 should address, and keep on its agenda, the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recalling also that, in the Final Document of the Eighteenth Summit of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, adopted in Baku on 26 October 2019,[147] the Heads of State or Government reiterated the collective position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on combating international terrorism and reaffirmed its previous initiative calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as well as other relevant initiatives,

Noting the importance of continuing to strive towards achieving a world free of terrorism,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 57/219 of 18 December 2002, 58/187 of 22 December 2003, 59/191 of 20 December 2004, 60/158 of 16 December 2005, 61/171 of 19 December 2006, 62/159 of 18 December 2007, 63/185 of 18 December 2008, 64/168 of 18 December 2009, 65/221 of 21 December 2010, 66/171 of 19 December 2011, 68/178 of 18 December 2013, 70/148 of 17 December 2015, 72/180 of 19 December 2017, 74/147 of 18 December 2019 and 76/169 of 16 December 2021,

[147] A/74/548, annex.

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General[148] and the oral report of the Chair of the Working Group of the Sixth Committee on its work during the seventy-seventh session,[149]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States, the United Nations and other appropriate international, regional and subregional organizations to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, as well as the resolutions relating to the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh reviews of the Strategy,[150] in all its aspects at the international, regional, subregional and national levels without delay, including by mobilizing resources and expertise;

3. *Recalls* the pivotal role of the General Assembly in following up the implementation and the updating of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, looks forward to the eighth review, in 2023, and in this regard recalls its invitation to the Secretary-General to contribute to the future deliberations of the Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General when doing so to provide information on relevant activities within the Secretariat to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system;

4. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider, in particular, the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (a) to (f) of General Assembly resolution 51/210;

6. *Also reiterates its call upon* all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

8. *Expresses concern* at the increase in incidents of kidnapping and hostage-taking with demands for ransom and/or political concessions by terrorist groups, and expresses the need to address this issue;

9. *Expresses grave concern* over the acute and growing threat posed by foreign terrorist fighters, namely, individuals who travel to a State other than their States of residence or nationality for the purpose of the perpetration, planning or preparation of, or participation in, terrorist acts or providing or receiving terrorist training, including in connection with armed conflict, emphasizes the need for States to address this issue, including through the implementation of their international obligations, and underlines the importance of United Nations capacity-building and facilitation of capacity-building in accordance with existing mandates to assist States, including those in the most affected regions, upon their request;

10. *Emphasizes* the need for States to cooperate resolutely against international terrorism by taking speedy and effective measures to eliminate this scourge, and in this regard calls upon all States, in accordance with their obligations under applicable international law and the Charter, to deny safe haven and bring to justice or, where appropriate, extradite, on the basis of the principle of extradite or prosecute, the perpetrators of terrorist acts or any person who supports, facilitates or participates or attempts to participate in the financing, planning or preparation of terrorist acts;

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[148] A/77/185.

[149] See A/C.6/77/SR.35.

[150] Resolutions 62/272, 64/297, 66/282, 68/276, 70/291,72/284 and 75/291.

11. *Urges* States to ensure that their nationals or other persons and entities within their territory that wilfully provide or collect funds for the benefit of persons or entities who commit, or attempt to commit, facilitate or participate in the commission of terrorist acts are punished by penalties consistent with the grave nature of such acts;

12. *Reminds* States of their obligations under relevant international conventions and protocols, and Security Council resolutions, including Council resolution 1373 (2001), to ensure that perpetrators of terrorist acts are brought to justice, and recalls the General Assembly resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism;

13. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions;

14. *Recalls* the adoption of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism,[151] the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material,[152] the Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation[153] and the Protocol of 2005 to the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf,[154] and urges all States to consider, as a matter of priority, becoming parties to these instruments;

15. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority and in accordance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and Council resolution 1566 (2004) of 8 October 2004, becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings,[155] the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[156] the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, the national legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to that end;

16. *Urges* States to cooperate with the Secretary-General and with one another, as well as with interested intergovernmental organizations, with a view to ensuring, where appropriate within existing mandates, that technical and other expert advice is provided to those States requiring and requesting assistance in becoming parties to and implementing the conventions and protocols referred to in paragraph 15 above;

17. *Notes with appreciation and satisfaction* that, consistent with the call contained in paragraphs 14 and 15 of General Assembly resolution 76/121 of 9 December 2021, a number of States became parties to the relevant conventions and protocols referred to therein, thereby realizing the objective of wider acceptance and implementation of those conventions;

18. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to Assembly resolution 51/210, and calls upon all States to implement them;

19. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate to prevent and suppress terrorist acts;

20. *Urges* all States and the Secretary-General, in their efforts to prevent international terrorism, to make the best use of the existing institutions of the United Nations;

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[151] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2445, No. 44004.

[152] Adopted on 8 July 2005 by the Conference to Consider and Adopt Proposed Amendments to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (International Atomic Energy Agency, document GOV/INF/2005/10-GC(49)/INF/6, attachment).

[153] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/21).

[154] Adopted on 14 October 2005 by the Diplomatic Conference on the Revision of the SUA Treaties (International Maritime Organization, document LEG/CONF.15/22).

[155] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2149, No. 37517.

[156] Ibid., vol. 2178, No. 38349.

21. *Notes* that the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre is performing its duties within the Office of Counter-Terrorism and that the Centre is supporting the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and encourages all Member States to collaborate with the Centre and to contribute to the implementation of its activities within the Office;

22. *Requests* the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna to continue its efforts to enhance, through its mandate, the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism, and recognizes, in the context of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), its role in assisting States in becoming parties to and implementing the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, including the most recent among them, and in strengthening international cooperation mechanisms in criminal matters related to terrorism, including through national capacity-building upon request;

23. *Notes* the issuance by the Secretariat of the fourth edition of the compendium of international instruments related to the prevention and suppression of international terrorism in all the six official languages of the United Nations;

24. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures that they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism, as well as on intergovernmental meetings held by those organizations;

25. *Decides* to recommend that the Sixth Committee, at the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, establish a working group with a view to finalizing the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism as well as discussions on the item included in its agenda by Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations;

26. *Recognizes* the valuable dialogue and efforts of Member States towards resolving any outstanding issues, and encourages all Member States to redouble their efforts during the intersessional period;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

RESOLUTION 77/114

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/429, para. 8)[157]

77/114. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[158]

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[159] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,[160] the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations[161] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with

[157] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire and Cyprus.

[158] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/77/26).

[159] Resolution 22 A (I).

[160] See resolution 169 (II).

[161] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 500, No. 7310.

the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement, and noting that bringing issues to the attention of the host country may in some cases help to have them be expeditiously resolved,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

Recognizing also that the Headquarters Agreement provides that it shall be construed in the light of its primary purpose to enable the United Nations at its headquarters in the United States, fully and efficiently, to discharge its responsibilities and fulfil its purposes,

Emphasizing that the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations does not distinguish between permanent and visiting representatives,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 144 of its report;

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which cannot be subject to any restrictions arising from the bilateral relations of the host country, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, notes the efforts made by the host country to this end and that numerous issues raised before the Committee remain unresolved, takes seriously concerns raised by permanent missions regarding the normal performance of their functions, notes that the Committee expresses its readiness to effectively address them and expects that all issues raised at its meetings that remain unresolved will be duly settled expeditiously, in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law, notes that the Committee encourages Member States to bring issues to the attention of the host country and the Committee as soon as they occur, requests the host country to continue to solve, preferably through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all appropriate steps to protect the premises of missions against any intrusion or damage and to prevent any disturbance of the peace of missions or impairment of their dignity, and urges the host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as the training of police, security, customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities, and to continue efforts to ensure that diplomats transiting to and from United Nations Headquarters are treated respectfully, and, if violations occur, to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;

3. *Recalls* the privileges and immunities applicable to the premises of the permanent missions to the United Nations enjoyed under international law, in particular the instruments listed in paragraph 144 (a) of the report of the Committee, and the obligations of the host country to observe such privileges and immunities, takes note of the alleged ongoing violations thereof by the host country and of the repeated concerns expressed thereon, urges the host country to remove without delay any restrictions applied to the premises of a Permanent Mission inconsistent with those privileges and immunities, and in that regard to ensure respect for such privileges and immunities, expresses concern regarding the lack of resolution of these matters, remains seized of these matters, and anticipates that they shall be duly addressed in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

4. *Also recalls* that, prior to the institution by the host country of any proceedings that require any person referred to in article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, including representatives of a Member State, to leave the host country, article IV, section 13 (b) (1) of the Headquarters Agreement, inter alia, requires the host country to consult with the Member State, the Secretary-General or other principal executive officer, as appropriate, and considers that, given the seriousness of any such measure being exercised by the host country, the consultation should be meaningful;

5. *Notes* the problems experienced by some permanent missions to the United Nations in connection with the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles,[162] and notes that the Committee shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuing to maintain the proper implementation of the Parking Programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;

6. *Strongly urges* the host country to remove all remaining travel restrictions imposed by it on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, and, recalling privileges and immunities enjoyed by the representatives of Member States and staff members of the Secretariat under applicable international law, notes

[162] A/AC.154/355, annex.

that the Committee recalls the lifting in 2021 of the more stringent travel restrictions applicable to one Mission, while remaining concerned about the more stringent travel restrictions that continue to affect another Mission, as well as more stringent travel restrictions applied to a Mission in 2021 and additional restrictions applied to the same Mission in 2022, and the statements of affected delegations that travel restrictions impede their ability to carry out their functions and negatively impact their staff and families, and notes the positions of affected States, as reflected in the report of the Secretary-General, of the host country and of the Legal Counsel, as set out in document A/AC.154/415, according to which, inter alia, "there is no room for the application of measures based on reciprocity in the treatment accorded to permanent missions accredited to the United Nations in New York";

7. *Recalls* article IV of the Headquarters Agreement, notes the concerns expressed by some delegations concerning the denial and delay of entry visas to representatives of Member States, and further notes that the Committee remains seized of an increasing number of entry visa-related issues raised at its meetings, and stresses that these issues should be duly resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law, including the Headquarters Agreement;

8. *Expresses serious concern* regarding the non-issuance of entry visas to certain representatives of certain Member States, in particular to delegates participating in the work of the Main Committees at the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly, emphasizes the importance of the full participation of all delegations in the work of the United Nations, and takes note of the statements of the Legal Counsel at the 297th and 298th meetings of the Committee, reiterating his statement at the emergency, 295th, meeting of the Committee, set out in document A/AC.154/415, where he confirmed that the legal position regarding the host country's obligations with respect to the issuance of visas to persons covered by the Headquarters Agreement remains unchanged from that which was provided by the then Legal Counsel to the Committee in 1988, set out in document A/C.6/43/7, according to which, inter alia, "the Headquarters Agreement makes it clear that there is an unrestricted right of persons mentioned in section 11 to enter the United States for the purpose of proceeding to the Headquarters district";

9. *Anticipates* that the host country will ensure the issuance of entry visas to all representatives of Member States and members of the Secretariat pursuant to article IV, sections 11 and 13, of the Headquarters Agreement, in a timely manner, to enable persons recruited to serve in the Secretariat or assigned as members of permanent missions to take up their assignments as promptly as possible and to enable representatives of Member States to travel, in a timely manner, to New York on United Nations business, including to attend official United Nations meetings, and notes that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance efforts, including visa issuance, to facilitate the participation of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings, as appropriate;

10. *Notes* that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for issuance and renewal of visas to representatives of Member States and members of their families, since the present time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings, and invites the host country to inform the Committee, as appropriate, of efforts to address such difficulties, and also notes that the Committee calls upon the host country to review its differing processes of granting visas to the personnel of certain missions, including single-entry visas, and the waiting time for issuance, with a view to ensuring that delegations are able to participate fully in the work of the United Nations;

11. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by some permanent missions to the United Nations in obtaining suitable banking services, and welcomes the continued efforts of the host country to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for those permanent missions;

12. *Stresses* the need for the permanent missions and the United Nations to benefit from appropriate banking services, and anticipates that the host country will continue to assist the permanent missions accredited to the United Nations and their staff in obtaining such services;

13. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the United States Mission to the United Nations, including to respond to requests from the diplomatic community in the challenging circumstances caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic since March 2020, and expects that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law, including the Headquarters Agreement;

14. *Affirms* the importance of the Committee being in a position to fulfil its mandate and meet on short notice to deal with urgent and important matters concerning the relations between the United Nations and the host country, and in that connection requests the Secretariat and the Committee on Conferences to accord priority to requests from

the Committee on Relations with the Host Country for conference-servicing facilities for meetings of that Committee that must be held while the General Assembly and its Main Committees are meeting, without prejudice to the requirements of those bodies and on an "as available" basis;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country at various levels in order to resolve the issues raised in the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, and to more actively engage in the work of the Committee with a view to ensuring the representation of the interests concerned, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI), and in this regard recalls the statements of the Legal Counsel at the emergency, 295th, meeting of the Committee, as set out in document A/AC.154/415, and also at its online informal meeting on 17 September 2020, recalls the position of the Committee as set out in paragraph 191 (p) of its previous report[163] and that of the General Assembly as set out in paragraph 15 of its resolution 76/122 of 9 December 2021, notes the discussions that have been formalized since the inclusion of subparagraph (p) in chapter IV of the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country in 2019[164] between the Legal Counsel and the competent authorities of the host country regarding unresolved issues and his reports on the outcome of these discussions, and further notes with concern that issues still persist without resolution, recalls in this regard, once more, that serious consideration should be given to taking steps under section 21 of the Headquarters Agreement if certain issues raised in the report of the Committee remained unresolved following a reasonable and finite period of time, and accordingly reiterates its recommendation to the Secretary-General to now give most serious consideration and take any appropriate steps under section 21 of the Headquarters Agreement and to enhance efforts to resolve the issues;

16. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) and, in this framework, to continue to consider additional appropriate measures to enhance the work of the Committee and its effectiveness and to make recommendations in its report to the Assembly at its seventy-eighth session;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

RESOLUTION 77/115

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/438, para. 8)[165]

77/115. Observer status for the Digital Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Digital Cooperation Organization,

1. *Decides* to invite the Digital Cooperation Organization to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/116

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 7 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/439, para. 7)[166]

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[163] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-sixth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/76/26).

[164] Ibid., *Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/74/26).

[165] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bahrain, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Jordan, Kuwait, Lesotho, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia and Uganda.

[166] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

77/116. Observer status for the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization,

1. *Decides* to invite the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 77/249

Adopted at the 56th (resumed) plenary meeting, on 30 December 2022, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/77/416, para. 7)[167]

77/249. Crimes against humanity

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-first session,[168] which contains the draft articles on prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity,

Recalling that the Commission decided to recommend the draft articles to the General Assembly and recommended the elaboration of a convention by the Assembly or by an international conference of plenipotentiaries on the basis of the draft articles,[169]

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 74/187 of 18 December 2019, 75/136 of 15 December 2020 and 76/114 of 9 December 2021, by which it took note of the draft articles,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of crimes against humanity, and recognizing the need to prevent and punish such crimes, which are among the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole,

Emphasizing that States have the primary responsibility to prevent and punish crimes against humanity,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for its continuing contribution to the codification and progressive development of international law;

2. *Takes note once again* of the draft articles on prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity, presented by the Commission;[170]

3. *Takes note* of all the views, comments and concerns expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee on this topic,[171] as well as the comments and observations received from Governments on the draft articles and on any future action thereon;

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[167] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

[168] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/74/10).

[169] Ibid., para. 42.

[170] Ibid., chap. IV, sect. E.

[171] A/C.6/74/SR.23, A/C.6/74/SR.24, A/C.6/74/SR.25, A/C.6/74/SR.26, A/C.6/74/SR.27, A/C.6/74/SR.30, A/C.6/75/SR.5, A/C.6/75/SR.6, A/C.6/76/SR.8, A/C.6/76/SR.9, A/C.6/76/SR.29, A/C.6/77/SR.9, A/C.6/77/SR.10 and A/C.6/77/SR.11.

4. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee shall resume its session for five days, from 10 to 14 April 2023, and for six days, from 1 to 5 April and 11 April 2024, in order to exchange substantive views, including in an interactive format, on all aspects of the draft articles, and to consider further the recommendation of the Commission contained in paragraph 42 of its report on the work of its seventy-first session for the elaboration of a convention by the General Assembly or by an international conference of plenipotentiaries on the basis of the draft articles;

5. *Also decides* that a written summary of the deliberations during the two resumed sessions referred to in paragraph 4 shall be prepared by the Sixth Committee at the end of the second resumed session;

6. *Invites* States to submit by the end of 2023 written comments and observations on the draft articles and on the recommendation of the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to prepare and circulate a compilation of those comments and observations well in advance of the session of the Sixth Committee to be held in 2024;

7. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee, at the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly, in the light of the written comments and observations of Governments, as well as the views expressed in discussions at the seventy-seventh and seventy-eighth sessions of the General Assembly and the written summary, will further examine the draft articles and the recommendation of the Commission and take a decision on this matter, without prejudice to the question of their future adoption or other appropriate action;

8. *Encourages* all Member States to continue the substantive dialogue on an informal basis during the period prior to the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions the item entitled “Crimes against humanity”.

Annex I

Allocation of agenda items[a]

Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Credentials of representatives to the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly:
   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President of the General Assembly.
6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.
7. Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee.
8. General debate.

A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

9. Report of the Economic and Social Council.
10. Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the political declarations on HIV/AIDS.
11. Sport for development and peace.
12. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa.
13. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields.
14. Culture of peace.
18. Sustainable development:
   (c) Disaster risk reduction.

B. Maintenance of international peace and security

27. Report of the Security Council.
28. Report of the Peacebuilding Commission.
29. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict.
30. Prevention of armed conflict:
   (a) Prevention of armed conflict;
   (b) Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution.

[a] Organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization.

31. Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development.

32. The situation in the Middle East.

33. Question of Palestine.

34. The situation in Afghanistan.

35. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte.

36. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba.

37. The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development.

38. Question of Cyprus.

39. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

40. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

41. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti.

42. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security.

43. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait.

58. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

59. The situation in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine.

60. Use of the veto.

61. Zone of peace, trust and cooperation of Central Asia.

C. Development of Africa

62. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support:

    (a) New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support;

    (b) Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.

D. Promotion of human rights

63. Report of the Human Rights Council.

66. Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

E. Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts

69. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance:

    (a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

    (b) Assistance to the Palestinian people;

    (c) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;

    (d) Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster.

F. Promotion of justice and international law

70. Report of the International Court of Justice.

71. Report of the International Criminal Court.

72. Oceans and the law of the sea:

    (a) Oceans and the law of the sea;

    (b) Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments.

87. Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legal consequences of the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius in 1965.

88. Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia – residual functions.

G. Disarmament

89. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

99. General and complete disarmament.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

113. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.

114. Report of the Secretary-General on the Peacebuilding Fund.

115. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations.

116. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs:

    (a) Election of non-permanent members of the Security Council;

    (b) Election of members of the Economic and Social Council;

    (c) Election of a member of the International Court of Justice.

117. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections:

    (a) Election of members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;

    (b) Election of members of the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission;

    (c) Election of members of the Human Rights Council;

    (d) Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme;

    (e) Election of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

118. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:

    (f) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

    (g) Appointment of the judges of the United Nations Dispute Tribunal;

    (h) Appointment of the judges of the United Nations Appeals Tribunal;

    (i) Appointment of members of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;

    (j) Appointment of members of the Joint Inspection Unit.

119. Admission of new Members to the United Nations.

120. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit.

121. The United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

122. Commemoration of the abolition of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade.

123. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations.

124. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

125. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council.

126. Strengthening of the United Nations system:

    (a) Strengthening of the United Nations system;

    (b) Central role of the United Nations system in global governance.

127. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations:

    (a) Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union;

    (b) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation;

    (c) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization;

    (d) Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States;

    (e) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic System;

    (f) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States;

    (g) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

    (h) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community;

    (i) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization;

    (j) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;

    (k) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization;

    (l) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

    (m) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;

    (n) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

    (o) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;

    (p) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum;

    (q) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations;

    (r) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries;

    (s) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization;

    (t) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization;

(u) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative;

(v) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM;

(w) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States;

(x) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization for Migration;

(y) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

(z) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea;

(aa) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

128. Global health and foreign policy.

129. International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.

130. Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him.

131. Sexual exploitation and abuse: implementing a zero-tolerance policy.

132. The responsibility to protect and the prevention of genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity.

133. Impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets.

134. Report of the United Nations Youth Office.

139. Programme planning.

First Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

G. Disarmament

90. Reduction of military budgets:

(a) Reduction of military budgets;

(b) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures.

91. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty.

92. Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco).

93. Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe.

94. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security.

95. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East.

96. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

97. Prevention of an arms race in outer space:
    (a) Prevention of an arms race in outer space;
    (b) No first placement of weapons in outer space;
    (c) Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space;
    (d) Reducing space threats through norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviours.
98. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament.
99. General and complete disarmament:
    (a) Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;
    (b) Nuclear disarmament;
    (c) Notification of nuclear tests;
    (d) Relationship between disarmament and development;
    (e) Regional disarmament;
    (f) Transparency in armaments;
    (g) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;
    (h) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;
    (i) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;
    (j) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;
    (k) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons;
    (l) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;
    (m) Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol;
    (n) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;
    (o) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them;
    (p) Treaty on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Central Asia;
    (q) Reducing nuclear danger;
    (r) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;
    (s) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments;
    (t) Mongolia’s international security and nuclear-weapon-free status;
    (u) Missiles;
    (v) Disarmament and non-proliferation education;
    (w) Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;
    (x) Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;
    (y) Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context;

(z) The Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation;

(aa) Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

(bb) Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus;

(cc) Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;

(dd) The Arms Trade Treaty;

(ee) Effects of the use of armaments and ammunitions containing depleted uranium;

(ff) Preventing the acquisition by terrorists of radioactive sources;

(gg) Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control;

(hh) Joint courses of action and future-oriented dialogue towards a world without nuclear weapons;

(ii) Follow-up to the 2013 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament;

(jj) Joint panel discussion of the First and Fourth Committees on possible challenges to space security and sustainability;

(kk) Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices;

(ll) Humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons;

(mm) Ethical imperatives for a nuclear-weapon-free world;

(nn) Implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions;

(oo) Nuclear disarmament verification;

(pp) Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons;

(qq) Strengthening and developing the system of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements.

100. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly:

(a) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;

(b) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

(c) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

(d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

(f) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

(g) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

(h) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament.

101. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission.

102. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East.

103. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

104. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region.

105. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

106. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.

107. Promoting international cooperation on peaceful uses in the context of international security.

108. Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

124. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

139. Programme planning.

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

B. Maintenance of international peace and security

44. Effects of atomic radiation.

45. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space.

46. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

47. Israeli practices and settlement activities affecting the rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories.

48. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects.

49. Comprehensive review of special political missions.

50. Questions relating to information.

51. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations.

52. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

53. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.

54. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

55. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

124. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

139. Programme planning.

Second Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

15. Information and communications technologies for sustainable development.

16. Macroeconomic policy questions:

    (a) International trade and development;

    (b) International financial system and development;

    (c) External debt sustainability and development;

    (d) Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development;

    (e) Promoting investments for sustainable development.

17. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development.

18. Sustainable development:

    (a) Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21;

    (b) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

    (c) Disaster risk reduction;

    (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;

    (e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

    (f) Convention on Biological Diversity;

    (g) Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;

    (h) Harmony with Nature;

    (i) Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;

    (j) Combating sand and dust storms;

    (k) Sustainable mountain development.

19. Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

20. Globalization and interdependence:

    (a) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence;

    (b) International migration and development.

21. Groups of countries in special situations:

    (a) Follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

    (b) Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries.

22. Eradication of poverty and other development issues:

    (a) Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027);

    (b) Industrial development cooperation;

    (c) Women in development;

    (d) Human resources development;

    (e) Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

23. Operational activities for development:

    (a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

    (b) South-South cooperation for development.

24. Agriculture development, food security and nutrition.

B. Maintenance of international peace and security

56. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

124. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

139. Programme planning.

Third Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

A. Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences

25. Social development:

    (a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

    (b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, persons with disabilities and the family;

    (c) Literacy for life: shaping future agendas.

26. Advancement of women.

B. Maintenance of international peace and security

57. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions.

D. Promotion of human rights

63. Report of the Human Rights Council.

64. Promotion and protection of the rights of children:

(a) Promotion and protection of the rights of children;

(b) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children.

65. Rights of indigenous peoples:

(a) Rights of indigenous peoples;

(b) Follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

66. Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance:

(a) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

(b) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

67. Right of peoples to self-determination.

68. Promotion and protection of human rights:

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

109. Crime prevention and criminal justice.

110. Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes.

111. International drug control.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

124. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

139. Programme planning.

Fifth Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

118. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:

(a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;

(c) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;

(d) Appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission;

(i) Appointment of members of the Commission;

(ii) Designation of the Chair of the Commission;

(e) Appointment of members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee;

(k) Appointment of members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee;

124. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

135. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors:

(a) United Nations;

(b) United Nations peacekeeping operations;

(c) International Trade Centre;

(d) United Nations University;

(e) United Nations Development Programme;

(f) United Nations Capital Development Fund;

(g) United Nations Children's Fund;

(h) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

(i) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

(j) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

(k) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(l) United Nations Population Fund;

(m) United Nations Human Settlements Programme;

(n) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

(o) United Nations Office for Project Services;

(p) United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women);

(q) International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals;

(r) United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund.

136. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

137. Programme budget for 2022.

138. Proposed programme budget for 2023.

139. Programme planning.

140. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations.

141. Pattern of conferences.

142. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations.

143. Human resources management.

144. Joint Inspection Unit.

145. United Nations common system.

146. United Nations pension system.

147. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

148. Report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

149. Administration of justice at the United Nations.

150. Financing of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.

151. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations.

152. Financing of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei.

153. Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic.

154. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire.

155. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus.

156. Financing of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

157. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor.

158. Financing of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

159. Financing of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti.

160. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo.

161. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Liberia.

162. Financing of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.

163. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East:

(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

164. Financing of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan.

165. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara.

166. Financing of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.

167. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009).

Sixth Committee

5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees.

F. Promotion of justice and international law

73. Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts.

74. Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission.

75. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-fifth session.

76. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law.

77. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-third session.

78. Crimes against humanity.

79. Diplomatic protection.

80. Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm.

81. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts.

82. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives.

83. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.

84. The rule of law at the national and international levels.

85. The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction.

86. The law of transboundary aquifers.

H. Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations

112. Measures to eliminate international terrorism.

I. Organizational, administrative and other matters

124. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly.

139. Programme planning.

145. United Nations common system.

149. Administration of justice at the United Nations.

168. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

169. Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly.

170. Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Union in the General Assembly.

171. Observer status for the Community of Democracies in the General Assembly.

172. Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly.

173. Observer status for the Global Environment Facility in the General Assembly.

174. Observer status for the International Organization of Employers in the General Assembly.

175. Observer status for the International Trade Union Confederation in the General Assembly.

176. Observer status for the Boao Forum for Asia in the General Assembly.

177. Observer Status for the Digital Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly.

178. Observer status for the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization in the General Assembly.

Annex II

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77/2.	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: requests under Article 19 of the Charter	142	15th	7 October 2022	1106
77/3.	Revised estimates on United Nations activities to mitigate global food insecurity and its humanitarian impact	137	21st	27 October 2022	1106
77/4.	Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for 2022 under section 3, Political affairs, and section 36, Staff assessment: special political missions – United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan	137	23rd	31 October 2022	1107
77/5.	Plenary meetings of the General Assembly on 8 and 9 December 2022 devoted to the consideration of the item entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea” and to the commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the adoption and opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea	72 (a)	27th	2 November 2022	5
77/6.	Report of the International Criminal Court	71	27th	2 November 2022	6
77/7.	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba	36	28th	3 November 2022	10
77/8.	World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Violence	131	30th	7 November 2022	11
77/9.	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency	89	32nd	9 November 2022	12
77/10.	The situation in Afghanistan	34	33rd	10 November 2022	13
77/11.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization	127 (k)	39th	21 November 2022	19
77/12.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations	127 (q)	39th	21 November 2022	20
77/13.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization	127 (t)	39th	21 November 2022	25
77/14.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries	127 (r)	39th	21 November 2022	27
77/15.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM	127 (v)	39th	21 November 2022	30
77/16.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States	127 (w)	39th	21 November 2022	31
77/17.	Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	127 (d)	39th	21 November 2022	32

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77/25.	Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine	33	42nd	30 November 2022	54
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77/34.	African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty	91	46th	7 December 2022	210
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77/38.	Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East	95	46th	7 December 2022	218
77/39.	Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons	96	46th	7 December 2022	220
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77/42.	No first placement of weapons in outer space	97 (b)	46th	7 December 2022	227
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77/56.	Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status	99 (t)	46th	7 December 2022	249
77/57.	Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the legality of the threat or use of nuclear weapons	99 (k)	46th	7 December 2022	252
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