Groups of countries in special situations

Report of the Second Committee*

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I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 8 September 2023, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-eighth session, the item entitled:

   “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”

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Committee held a general discussion, considered proposals and took action on the item at its 7th, 21st and 23rd meetings, on 4 October, 9 November and 21 November 2023. An account of the Committee’s consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.1 Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, on 2, 3 and 4 October.2 An account of the Committee’s further consideration of the item is provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

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* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols A/78/463, A/78/463/Add.1 and A/78/463/Add.2.
Item 20 (a)
Follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (A/78/112-E/2023/94)

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on an online university for least developed countries (A/78/367)

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on ensuring the effective implementation of the functions of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (A/77/984)³

Item 20 (b)
Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 (A/78/283)

4. At the 7th meeting, on 4 October 2023, the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States made an introductory statement and responded to questions raised by the representatives of Zimbabwe and Nepal (on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries).

5. At the 21st meeting, on 9 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.⁴

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³ As decided by the Committee at its 1st meeting, on 28 September 2023.
⁴ See A/C.2/78/SR.21.