



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-eighth session

Agenda item 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**

## **Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 9 January 2024**

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/78/L.34)]

### **78/259. International Day of Science, Technology and Innovation for the South**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [78/160](#) of 19 December 2023 on science, technology and innovation for sustainable development and its previous resolutions on the issue,<sup>1</sup>

*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,

*Recognizing* the importance of creating synergies, developing expertise and boosting resources in various regions and institutions, and in this regard taking note of the Summit on Science, Technology and Innovation of the Group of 77 and China, held in Havana on 15 and 16 September 2023, and the Havana Declaration on Current Development Challenges: the Role of Science, Technology and Innovation,<sup>2</sup> as an effort to boost cooperation in this field,

*Stressing* the important role of science, technology and innovation to support economic growth and sustainable development and to accelerate the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>3</sup> and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Resolutions [58/200](#), [59/220](#), [60/205](#), [61/207](#), [62/201](#), [64/212](#), [66/211](#), [68/220](#), [70/213](#), [72/228](#), [74/229](#) and [76/213](#).

<sup>2</sup> [A/78/393](#), annex.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>4</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.



as well as the political declaration of the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit,<sup>5</sup>

*Noting with deep concern* the existing disparities between developed and developing countries in terms of conditions, possibilities and capacities to produce new scientific and technological knowledge,

*Recognizing* that science, technology and innovation cooperation and collaboration with, as well as foreign direct investment in and trade with and among, developing countries, as well as international support, are fundamental to enhancing developing countries' ability to benefit from technological advances and to produce, nurture, access, comprehend, select, adapt and use science, technology and innovation knowledge,

*Emphasizing* the need to encourage the promotion of North-South cooperation projects and programmes to improve developing countries' access to more and better resources for the implementation of technical and scientific initiatives and to continue working on the development of science and technology in developing countries by strengthening South-South and triangular cooperation, while recalling that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation,

*Welcoming* the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, and inviting Member States and other stakeholders to provide voluntary funding to the trust fund of the Technology Bank so that it can pursue its objectives in the area of science, technology and innovation for the least developed countries,

*Calling upon* the international community to foster an open, fair, inclusive and non-discriminatory environment for scientific and technological development and to support the efforts of the countries of the South to develop and strengthen their national science, technology and innovation systems,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 16 September as the International Day of Science, Technology and Innovation for the South, to be observed annually;

2. *Invites* all States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and observers of the General Assembly, as well as organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, academia, civil society, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, to observe the International Day of Science, Technology and Innovation for the South, in an appropriate manner, by presenting initiatives, including cooperation projects in the areas of science, technology and innovation that contribute to the development of developing countries in those fields;

3. *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;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all States Members of the United Nations, members of the specialized agencies and observers of the General Assembly, as well as the organizations of the United Nations system, academia, civil society, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, for appropriate observance.

*52nd plenary meeting  
9 January 2024*

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<sup>5</sup> Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly (resolution 78/1, annex).