



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-second session

Agenda item 27

### Social development

#### Report of the Third Committee

*Rapporteur:* Mr. Edgar Andrés **Molina Linares** (Guatemala)

#### I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 September 2017, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-second session the item entitled:

“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, disabled persons and the family”

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee held a general discussion on the item at its 1st to 4th meetings, on 2 and 3 October 2017, and considered proposals and took action under the item at its 44th, 49th, 50th and 52nd meetings, on 9, 17, 20 and 21 November. An account of the Committee’s discussion is contained in the relevant summary records.<sup>1</sup>

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

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly ([A/72/158](#));

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on cooperatives in social development ([A/72/159](#));

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<sup>1</sup> [A/C.3/72/SR.1](#), [A/C.3/72/SR.2](#), [A/C.3/72/SR.3](#), [A/C.3/72/SR.4](#), [A/C.3/72/SR.44](#), [A/C.3/72/SR.49](#), [A/C.3/72/SR.50](#) and [A/C.3/72/SR.52](#).



(c) Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing ([A/72/161](#) and [Corr.1](#));

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes ([A/72/166](#));

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the social development challenges faced by persons with albinism ([A/72/169](#));

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on promoting social integration through social inclusion ([A/72/189](#));

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on youth development links to sustainable development ([A/72/190](#));

(h) Note by the Secretariat transmitting an overview of the report entitled “World Social Situation 2017: Promoting inclusion through social protection” ([A/72/211](#));

(i) Letter dated 27 September 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/72/511](#));

(j) Letter dated 19 October 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/C.3/72/15](#)).

4. At the 1st meeting, on 2 October, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made introductory statements.

## **II. Consideration of proposals**

### **A. Draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.10/Rev.1](#)**

5. At its 49th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Persons with albinism” ([A/C.3/72/L.10/Rev.1](#)), which replaced draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.10](#) and was submitted by Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Benin, the Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, Ethiopia, Japan, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Morocco, South Sudan, Togo, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia. Subsequently, Afghanistan, Angola, Austria, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, France, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Namibia, Nigeria, the Republic of Korea, Senegal, the Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.10/Rev.1](#) (see para. 39, draft resolution I).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

## B. Draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.12/Rev.1](#)

8. At its 52nd meeting, on 21 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly” ([A/C.3/72/L.12/Rev.1](#)), which replaced draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.12](#) and was submitted by Belarus, Ecuador (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Kazakhstan. Subsequently, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.12/Rev.1](#) by a recorded vote of 170 to 2, with 1 abstention (see para. 39, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, 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, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, 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, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, 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, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Israel, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

Armenia.

10. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Ecuador, China, the Russian Federation and Brazil; after the vote,

statements were made by the representatives of Mexico and Ecuador (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China).

### **C. Draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.7/Rev.1](#)**

11. At its 51st meeting, on 20 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Promoting social integration through social inclusion” ([A/C.3/72/L.7/Rev.1](#)), which replaced draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.7](#) and was submitted by Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Israel, Liberia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, South Africa, Togo and Uruguay. Subsequently, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

12. At the same meeting, the representative of Peru made a statement.

13. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.7/Rev.1](#) (see para. 39, draft resolution III).

14. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Gabon (also on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, the Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe), South Africa and Canada (also on behalf of Argentina).

### **D. Draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.9](#)**

15. At its 44th meeting, on 9 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Cooperatives in social development” ([A/C.3/72/L.9](#)), submitted by Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Ireland, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Poland and Qatar.

16. At the same meeting, the representative of Mongolia orally revised the draft resolution by deleting operative paragraph 12.

17. Also at the same meeting, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the

Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Myanmar, Namibia, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, the Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

18. Also at the 44th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.9](#), as orally revised (see para. 39, draft resolution IV).

19. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

#### **E Draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.13/Rev.1](#)**

20. At its 50th meeting, on 20 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing” ([A/C.3/72/L.13/Rev.1](#)), which replaced draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.13](#) and was submitted by Ecuador (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Israel, Kazakhstan and Mexico. Subsequently, Austria, Canada, Croatia, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

21. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

22. Also the same meeting, the representative of the Ecuador (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) orally revised the draft resolution by adding a new ultimate preambular paragraph.

23. Also at the 50th meeting, the representative of France withdrew as a sponsor of the draft resolution.

24. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.13/Rev.1](#), as orally revised (see para. 39, draft resolution V).

25. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

#### **F. Draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.14/Rev.1](#)**

26. At its 49th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Follow-up to the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond” ([A/C.3/72/L.14/Rev.1](#)), which replaced draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.14](#) and was submitted by Belarus, Ecuador (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China),

Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan. Subsequently, Azerbaijan and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

27. At the same meeting, the representative of the Ecuador (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) orally revised operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution.

28. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Mexico and Estonia (on behalf of the European Union).

29. Also at the 49th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.14/Rev.1](#), as orally revised (see para. 39, draft resolution VI).

### G. Draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.15/Rev.1](#)

30. At its 49th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Policies and programmes involving youth” ([A/C.3/72/L.15/Rev.1](#)), which replaced draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.15](#) and was submitted by Argentina, Armenia, Belize, Benin, Iceland, Liberia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Thailand, Togo, Uruguay and Zambia. Subsequently, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, France, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

31. At the same meeting, the representative of Portugal made a statement.

32. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Saint Lucia made a statement and orally proposed an amendment to operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution.<sup>2</sup>

33. Also at the 49th meeting, the representative of Senegal made a statement and requested a recorded vote on the proposed amendment.

34. At the same meeting, the Committee rejected the oral amendment by a recorded vote of 99 to 45, with 20 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Libya, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nauru, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,

<sup>2</sup> See [A/C.3/72/SR.49](#).

Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia.

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Ethiopia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malawi, Maldives, Mauritius, Morocco, Nepal, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam.

35. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Estonia (on behalf of the European Union) and Canada (on behalf of Australia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland).

36. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.15/Rev.1](#) (see para. 39, draft resolution VII).

37. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Saint Lucia, the Sudan, the United States of America, Israel, Saudi Arabia (also on behalf of Egypt, Iraq, Libya and Yemen) and Mauritania. A statement was also made by the observer of the Holy See.

## **H. Draft decision proposed by the Chair**

38. At its 52nd meeting, on 21 November, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the note by the Secretariat transmitting an overview of the report entitled "World Social Situation 2017: Promoting inclusion through social protection" ([A/72/211](#)) (see para. 40).

### III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

39. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### **Draft resolution I Persons with albinism**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> and recalling relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>2</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>2</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>4</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women<sup>5</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>6</sup> and the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,<sup>7</sup>

*Recalling* resolution [70/229](#) of 23 December 2015, its previous resolution on persons with albinism,

*Recalling also* Human Rights Council resolutions [23/13](#) of 13 June 2013 on attacks and discrimination against persons with albinism,<sup>8</sup> [24/33](#) of 27 September 2013 on technical cooperation for the prevention of attacks against persons with albinism,<sup>9</sup> and [28/6](#) of 26 March 2015,<sup>10</sup> by which the Council established the mandate of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism,

*Recalling further* its resolution [69/170](#) of 18 December 2014, by which the General Assembly decided to proclaim 13 June as International Albinism Awareness Day, with effect from 2015,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on social development challenges faced by persons with albinism and the recommendations contained therein,<sup>11</sup>

*Taking note also* of the report on persons with albinism submitted by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-fourth session,<sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>7</sup> [A/37/351/Add.1](#) and [Corr.1](#), annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

<sup>8</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/68/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>11</sup> [A/72/169](#).

<sup>12</sup> [A/HRC/24/57](#).



*Taking note further* of African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights resolutions 263 of 5 November 2013 on the prevention of attacks and discrimination against persons with albinism<sup>13</sup> and 373 of 22 May 2017 on the Regional Action Plan on Albinism in Africa (2017–2021),<sup>14</sup>

*Expressing concern* at all attacks against persons with albinism, including women and children,

*Welcoming* the steps taken and the efforts made by the countries concerned, including the initiation of legal action against perpetrators of attacks against persons with albinism, public condemnation of attacks against persons with albinism and public campaigns to raise awareness,

*Expressing concern* that persons with albinism are disproportionately affected by poverty, owing to the discrimination and marginalization they face, and in this regard recognizing that there is a need for resources to develop and implement programmes to prevent and combat prejudice, to foster inclusion and to create an environment conducive to respect for their rights and dignity,

*Expressing concern also* that women and girls with albinism may face multiple forms of discrimination, and a higher risk of sexual abuse, especially in communities where they are believed to have the power to cure HIV and AIDS, including being targets of witchcraft-related attacks,

*Recognizing* the need to address the root causes of attacks and discrimination against persons with albinism, particularly the interrelated factors, including the mythologization of albinism and the related lack of understanding of the scientific bases of the condition, poverty, discrimination and economic and social marginalization, witchcraft practices and other aggravating factors, which contribute to the ongoing outbreaks of attacks and discrimination against persons with albinism, particularly on the African continent,

*Recognizing also* that implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>15</sup> will contribute, inter alia, to the promotion of social inclusion of persons in vulnerable situations, including persons with albinism,

*Expressing concern* at the absence of disaggregated data on the status of persons with albinism,

*Recognizing* that access to full and productive employment and decent work is an important aspect of participation in social and economic life,

*Reaffirming* the need for the participation of persons with albinism in development efforts at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard stressing the need to strengthen the effectiveness of national, regional and international policy and development programmes related to persons with albinism,

1. *Urges* Member States to continue to meet their obligations to uphold the human rights of all persons, including persons with albinism, including the rights to life, liberty, security of person, education, work, an adequate standard of living and the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;

<sup>13</sup> See [www.achpr.org/sessions/54th/resolutions/263/](http://www.achpr.org/sessions/54th/resolutions/263/).

<sup>14</sup> See [www.achpr.org/sessions/60th/resolutions/373/](http://www.achpr.org/sessions/60th/resolutions/373/).

<sup>15</sup> Resolution 70/1.

2. *Encourages* Member States to adopt, if necessary, national action plans and legislation, as appropriate, on the rights of persons with albinism, in conformity with their international human rights obligations and commitments, notably the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>2</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>2</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities<sup>4</sup> and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;<sup>3</sup>

3. *Also encourages* Member States to address the root causes of discrimination and violence against persons with albinism, including through awareness raising campaigns, the dissemination of accurate information on albinism and other measures, such as the integration of albinism into education curricula, as appropriate;

4. *Further encourages* Member States to end impunity for violence against persons with albinism, including sexual and gender-based violence, by amending laws, where applicable, and by bringing perpetrators to justice;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to work to ensure accountability through the conduct of impartial, speedy and effective investigations into attacks against persons with albinism falling within their jurisdiction, to hold those responsible accountable and to ensure that victims and family members have access to appropriate remedies;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to provide financial and technical assistance to Member States, upon their request, in support of measures to prevent and combat discrimination against persons with albinism, including strengthening the capacity of their health-care systems to provide affordable dermatological and ophthalmological services;

7. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations agencies to collect, compile and disseminate disaggregated data on persons with albinism, where applicable, to identify patterns of discrimination and to assess progress towards the improvement of their status;

8. *Encourages* Member States to develop, if necessary, policies and measures to address the social development challenges faced by persons with albinism, who may require assistance in order to enjoy equal access to benefits and services, notably in the fields of education, employment and health, and to promote their participation in political, civil, economic, social and cultural life;

9. *Urges* Member States to implement, if necessary, national measures to ensure that persons with albinism are not left behind, recognizing that persons with albinism are often disproportionately affected by poverty, discrimination, lack of decent work and employment, and to commit to working towards the social integration of persons with albinism;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present a report to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Social development", on the various social development challenges faced by persons with albinism, taking into consideration the specific needs of women and children, including those related to social inclusion, health, education and employment, and measures taken, with recommendations for further action to be taken by Member States and other relevant stakeholders to address identified challenges, and encourages the Secretary-General to collect information from Member States and all

relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system in the preparation of the report;

11. *Decides*, taking into account the multifaceted nature of the challenges faced by persons with albinism, to consider the issue of persons with albinism at its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Social development”.

## **Draft resolution II 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,*

*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<sup>1</sup> and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,<sup>2</sup> 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,

*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,

*Emphasizing* the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up 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,<sup>3</sup> 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 priority theme for the 2017–2018 review and policy cycle, which shall allow the Commission for Social Development to contribute to the work of the Council, will be “Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all”,<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *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.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution S-24/2, annex.

<sup>3</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/6, para. 3.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 6.

*Recalling* the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the 2017 session of the Economic and Social Council on the annual theme “Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges”, and the ministerial declaration of the 2017 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, on the theme “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world”,<sup>5</sup>

*Reaffirming* that the Declaration on the Right to Development<sup>6</sup> also informs the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, along with other relevant instruments, such as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>7</sup> Agenda 2063 adopted by the African Union and the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,<sup>8</sup> 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,

*Noting* 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, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, in which the particular role of the Organization in promoting fair globalization and its responsibility to assist its members in their efforts were acknowledged, as well as in the Global Jobs Pact,

*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 basic standards of living, fostering equitable and inclusive social development and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources,

*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,

*Recalling* its resolution [63/303](#) of 9 July 2009, entitled “Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development”, and recognizing that the remaining effects of the world financial and economic crisis have the potential to undermine progress towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in many countries, especially developing countries,

*Affirming* its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into 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 poverty reduction strategies, and 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,

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<sup>5</sup> [E/HLS/2017/L.29-E/HLPF/2017/L.2](#).

<sup>6</sup> Resolution [41/128](#), annex.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

<sup>8</sup> [A/63/538-E/2009/4](#), annex.

*Deeply concerned* that extreme poverty persists in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that its extent and its manifestations, such as hunger and malnutrition, vulnerability to trafficking in human beings, disease, lack of adequate shelter and illiteracy, are particularly severe in developing 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,

*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, 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 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,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>9</sup>
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,<sup>1</sup> in particular to 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. *Also welcomes* the adoption, in its entirety, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>10</sup> 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, including goals and targets aimed at the promotion of sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all and the reduction of inequalities within and among countries;

### **Poverty eradication**

4. *Recognizes* that the social integration of people living in poverty should encompass addressing and meeting their basic human needs, including nutrition,

<sup>9</sup> A/72/158.

<sup>10</sup> Resolution 70/1.

health, water, sanitation, housing and access to education and employment, through integrated development strategies;

5. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,<sup>11</sup> 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,<sup>12</sup> 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,<sup>7</sup> 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;

6. *Also emphasizes* that poverty eradication policies should be targeted and strengthened, while tackling poverty by addressing its root and structural causes and manifestations, and that equity, inclusivity, the reduction of inequalities and the empowerment of the poor need to be incorporated into those policies;

7. *Stresses* that poverty eradication policies should, inter alia, ensure that people living in poverty have access to education, health, water and sanitation and other public and social services, as well as access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology, knowledge and information, and ensure that citizens and local communities participate in decision-making on social development policies and programmes in this regard;

8. *Recognizes* the need to formulate social development policies in an integral, articulated and participative manner, recognizing poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon, calls for interlinked public policies on this matter, and underlines the need for public policies to be included in a comprehensive strategy for development and well-being;

9. *Reaffirms* the New Urban Agenda,<sup>13</sup> 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 energy, air quality and livelihoods;

10. *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

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<sup>11</sup> *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.

<sup>12</sup> Resolution 63/239, annex.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex.

to ensure that policies in the area of agriculture do not distort trade and worsen food insecurity;

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<sup>14</sup> and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

### **Decent work**

12. *Recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work, tripartism and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore an important objective of international cooperation, and supports the promotion of innovative approaches in the design and implementation of employment policies and programmes for all, including the long-term unemployed;

13. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection that support labour market participation and address and reduce inequality and social exclusion and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies and policies on extending 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;

14. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promoting opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, including respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, also reaffirms that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development, that an environment that supports investment, growth, innovation and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities and that human resources development strategies should be premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between education, health, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy, and further reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

15. *Recognizes* that promoting full employment and decent work for all also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men,

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<sup>14</sup> [A/57/304](#), annex.



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;

### **Social integration**

16. *Urges* Member States to strengthen social policies, as appropriate, paying particular attention to the specific needs of disadvantaged social groups to ensure that these groups, inter alia, 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, are not left behind;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of providing social protection schemes for the formal and informal economy as instruments for achieving equity, inclusion and stability and cohesion of societies, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

18. *Reaffirms* the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of 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, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

19. *Stresses* the need to allocate adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in the workplace, including unequal access to labour market participation and wage inequalities, as well as reconciliation of work and private life for both women and men;

20. *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;

21. *Recognizes* 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,<sup>15</sup> the World Programme of Action for

<sup>15</sup> *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.

Youth,<sup>16</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>17</sup> the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples<sup>18</sup> and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;<sup>19</sup>

22. *Welcomes* the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–2024), and 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;

23. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promoting the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social security, and notes the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

24. *Recognizes* that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization, giving priority to agricultural and non-farm sectors, and to maximize its benefits for poor people living and working in rural areas, while paying special attention to the development of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in rural areas, as well as subsistence economies, to secure their safe interaction with larger economies;

25. *Encourages* Member States to pursue social and economic policies to support the creation of farm and off-farm jobs, as appropriate, especially labour-intensive and higher-productivity jobs in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and recognizes that redistributive land policies and improved access to formal credit markets through greater financial inclusion, as well as structural transformation policies that help shift labour to high-productivity manufacturing and services sectors, may be considered by Member States within their national contexts and legislation;

26. *Reaffirms* the need to address all forms of violence in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, particularly against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, and discrimination, including xenophobia, 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;

### **Sustainable development**

27. *Also reaffirms* the importance of rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world by, inter alia, appraising progress made, identifying gaps and challenges in achieving the internationally agreed social development goals and realizing opportunities for social development;

28. *Recognizes* that eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity require collective and transformative efforts, putting the furthest behind first and adapting institutions and policies to take into account the multidimensional nature of poverty and the inherent interlinkages between different Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda;

29. *Stresses* that more concerted efforts are required to boost smallholder productivity in a sustainable manner, including scaling up public investments in

<sup>16</sup> Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

<sup>17</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>18</sup> Resolution 61/295, annex.

<sup>19</sup> *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.

agriculture, attracting responsible private investment in agriculture, improving the quality and quantity of rural extension services and ensuring that smallholder farmers, in particular women, have access to the necessary resources, assets and markets and to cross-cutting agricultural technologies;

30. *Recognizes* the need to give priority to investing in and further contributing to sustainable development, including sustainable agricultural development, and to a financial infrastructure that provides access to a variety of sustainable products and services for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises, and the participation and entrepreneurship of women as means to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all;

31. *Recognizes* the responsibility of Governments to urgently and significantly scale up efforts to accelerate the transition towards universal access to affordable and quality health-care services;

32. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people have access, without discrimination, to nationally 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 these services does not expose the users to financial hardship;

33. *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;

34. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition;

35. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for all 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;

36. *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;

37. *Also stresses* the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework,<sup>20</sup> invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

### **Inequality**

38. *Further 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 and

<sup>20</sup> A/HRC/17/31, annex.

programmes, including appropriate social transfer and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;

39. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, 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;

40. *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;

41. *Supports* the development of vertical and horizontal models of distribution of financial resources to decrease inequalities across subnational territories, within urban centres and between urban and rural areas, as well as to promote integrated and balanced territorial development, and reaffirms the importance of improving the transparency of data on spending and resource allocation as a tool for assessing progress towards equity and spatial integration;

42. *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;

43. *Invites* Member States to develop comprehensive, integrated and coherent strategies that effectively address the structural causes of poverty and inequality by pursuing equity and growth objectives simultaneously in their national contexts, making sure that such strategies promote inclusion and equity to sustain income growth for all, with an emphasis on job-rich growth;

#### **Social development actors**

44. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors 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 importance of efforts to promote the exchange of information and knowledge on decent work for all and job creation, including green jobs initiatives and related skills, and to facilitate the integration of relevant data into national economic and employment policies;

45. *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 for Sustainable Development;

46. *Acknowledges* the role that the public sector can play as an employer and its importance in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all;

47. *Also acknowledges* the vital role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work for all, and encourages the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives, to contribute to decent work for all and job creation for both women and men, and particularly for young people, including through partnerships with Governments, the United Nations system, civil society and academia;

48. *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;

49. *Stresses* that stability in global financial systems and corporate social responsibility and accountability, as well as national economic policies that have an impact on other stakeholders, are essential in creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development;

50. *Encourages* Governments to promote effective participation of people in civic, social, economic and political activities, as well as in the planning and implementation of social integration policies and strategies, in order to better achieve the goals of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work and social integration;

### **International cooperation**

51. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

52. *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;

53. *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, and that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance (ODA), is to catalyse the mobilization of additional resources from other public and private sources, and notes that ODA 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 (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 per cent to 0.2 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

54. *Welcomes* the increase in the volume of ODA since the adoption of the Monterrey Consensus, expresses its concern that many countries still fall short of their ODA commitments, reiterates that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial, commends those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI and the target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries, urges all other countries to step up efforts to increase their ODA and to make additional concrete efforts towards the ODA targets, welcomes the decision by the European Union reaffirming its collective commitment to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and undertaking to meet collectively the target of 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries in the short term and to reach 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda, and encourages ODA providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

55. *Stresses* the essential role that ODA 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;

56. *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;

57. *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;

58. *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, 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;

59. *Stresses* that the international community should support national commitments to eradicate poverty in all its forms 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;

60. *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;

#### **Follow-up**

61. *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 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;

62. *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;

63. *Further reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development will contribute to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within its existing mandate, by supporting the thematic reviews of the high-level political forum on sustainable development on progress in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including cross-cutting issues, which should reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them, while engaging all relevant stakeholders and, where possible, feeding into and being aligned with the cycle of the high-level political forum, according to the organizational arrangements to be established by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

64. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,<sup>20</sup> underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, in line with the African Union's Agenda 2063, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

65. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) fell short of expectations, and recalls the proclamation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution [62/205](#) of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, which include the Sustainable Development Goals;

66. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies 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;

67. *Encourages* States to design and implement policies and strategies for poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all, including the creation of full and productive employment that is appropriately and adequately remunerated, as well as policies and strategies for social integration that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and address the specific needs of social groups such as young people, persons with disabilities, older persons, migrants and indigenous peoples, taking into account the concerns of those groups in the planning, implementation and evaluation of development programmes and policies;

68. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development in a coherent and coordinated manner;

69. *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,<sup>21</sup> to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

70. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to emphasize, in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, 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 and to remain actively engaged in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its social dimension;

71. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level thematic debate on the issue of inclusive development and inequality within and among countries, before the meeting of the high-level political forum in 2019, and encourages the Secretary-General to include best practices related to the reduction of inequalities within and among countries in the *Report on the World Social Situation 2019*;

72. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third 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 special focus on trends in inequality within and among countries, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.

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<sup>21</sup> 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.



### **Draft resolution III**

#### **Promoting social integration through social inclusion**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* that, in order to leave no one behind and bring everyone forward, actions are needed to promote equality of opportunity so that no person is denied basic economic and social opportunities and the enjoyment of all human rights,

*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,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/12 of 22 July 2010 on promoting social integration, General Assembly resolution [70/126](#) of 17 December 2015 and its previous resolutions on promoting social integration through social inclusion,

*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,

*Welcoming* the fact that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development reflects the cross-cutting nature and importance of social inclusion, through the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, and acknowledging that its promotion is required to achieve sustainable development in all of its dimensions,

*Recalling* that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes, among the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which are integrated and indivisible, a goal 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,

*Recalling also* 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 ensure that no one is left behind,

*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 commitment of the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held from 17 to 20 October 2016 in Quito, Ecuador, 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 women, innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusion, identity and safety, and the dignity

of all people, as well as to fostering liveability and a vibrant urban economy while also taking steps to ensure that local institutions promote pluralism and peaceful coexistence within increasingly heterogeneous and multicultural societies,

*Recognizing* the great importance of promoting comprehensive systems of social protection that provide universal access to essential social services, consistent with national priorities and circumstances, in order to help meet the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the commitment of several United Nations entities to mainstream social inclusion in their work, and encouraging others to do the same,

*Reaffirming* the commitment of the international community to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for everyone, as necessary, to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, which should be complemented, as appropriate, by effective social protection policies, including social inclusion policies,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of reducing inequalities within and among countries through the empowerment of all and the promotion of social, economic and political inclusion, especially for those in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations,

*Recognizing* that the gains of economic growth should also benefit those in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations,

*Recognizing also* that social inclusion and equality are intrinsically linked and that focusing on and investing in the most disadvantaged and excluded populations, which may include women, children and persons with disabilities, is critically important for the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Recognizing further* that social inclusion policies and systems play a critical role in promoting an inclusive society and are also crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion and inclusion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

*Reaffirming* the important role of corporate social responsibility and accountability in contributing to an enabling environment to promote inclusive economic growth and social integration,

*Recognizing* that social inclusion policies also strengthen the democratic process and play a critical role in progressively realizing economic, social and cultural rights for all,

*Stressing* that social inclusion policies should promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and equal access to opportunities and social protection for all, in particular for those in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations, including women who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and violence,

*Reaffirming* the importance of ensuring the social integration of older persons and the promotion and protection of their rights, as an integral part of development policies at all levels, and recognizing that older persons can make a significant contribution to sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental,

*Reaffirming also* that youth participation is important for development, and encouraging Member States to explore and promote the participation of young people in relevant decision-making processes and monitoring, including in designing and

implementing policies and programmes involving them, while implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Recognizing* the important role played by civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in promoting social integration, inter alia, through social programmes and support for the development of socially inclusive policies,

*Acknowledging* that the participation of persons in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations is crucial to formulating and implementing social inclusion policies that effectively achieve social integration, as appropriate,

*Reaffirming* the important role of cooperatives, especially in developing countries, in reducing inequality within and among countries and ensuring social inclusion while promoting more inclusive and equitable growth in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals with the aim of leaving no one behind,

*Recognizing* that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, and reaffirming the essential role of national policies and strategies in promoting sustainable development in all of its forms, particularly the promotion of social inclusion,

*Recognizing also* the importance of an enabling international environment, and stressing the importance of enhanced international cooperation to support national efforts towards promoting social integration through social inclusion in every country, including the fulfilment of all commitments on official development assistance, debt relief, market access, financial and technical support and capacity-building,

*Expressing concern* that, in times of economic and financial crisis and ongoing concern about energy and food insecurity, social exclusion can be exacerbated, and stressing in this regard that sustainable and reliable social inclusion policies and programmes can play a positive role,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>1</sup>
2. *Stresses* that Member States, which bear the main responsibility for social integration and social inclusion, should prioritize the creation of a “society for all” based on respect for all human rights and the principles of equality among individuals, non-discrimination, access to basic social services and promotion of the active participation of every member of society, in particular those in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations, in all aspects of life, including civic, social, economic, cultural and political activities, as well as participation in decision-making processes;
3. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities and that equity and social inclusion are important for achieving sustainable development, ensuring that individuals can participate without discrimination and contribute to its social, economic and environmental dimensions;
4. *Stresses* the importance of promoting inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all, especially for older persons and persons with disabilities, and of skills development and quality training, as essential means for inclusive participation and integration in society;
5. *Calls upon* Member States to promote a more equitable participation in and access to economic growth gains, through, inter alia, policies that ensure inclusive labour markets and by implementing socially responsive macroeconomic policies, in which employment has a key role, and social inclusion strategies that promote social integration, ensuring social protection floors, particularly for those who are in

<sup>1</sup> A/72/189.

vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations, as defined by each country in accordance with its individual circumstances, including on a demand-driven basis, and the promotion and protection of their social and economic rights;

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider, when appropriate, the creation or the strengthening of national institutions or agencies for promoting, implementing and evaluating social inclusion programmes and mechanisms, at the national and local levels, in order to help to ensure that no one is left behind;

7. *Also encourages* Member States to consider promoting the increased civil, political and economic participation of women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, including through promoting their involvement in political processes and their access to social protection, credit, vocational training and employment support services;

8. *Further encourages* Member States to ensure inclusive participatory and representative decision-making processes, at all levels, and to review existing legal frameworks, as appropriate, with a view to removing discriminatory provisions so as to reduce inequalities;

9. *Encourages* Member States to promote social inclusion as a matter of social justice in order to build the resilience of vulnerable populations and to help them to adapt to the negative impact of economic crises, humanitarian emergencies and climate change, and in this regard invites relevant United Nations entities and international institutions to support such efforts;

10. *Invites* Member States, and encourages regional organizations, to support national efforts to achieve inclusive societies, in particular in developing countries, upon their request, by providing, inter alia, financial and technical cooperation for the design and implementation of sound social inclusion policies;

11. *Encourages* Member States to mainstream social integration objectives into social inclusion policies, promoting the participation of persons in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations in planning, implementing and monitoring processes, in collaboration, as appropriate, with relevant organizations of the United Nations development system, regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, development and social partners, the private sector and civil society organizations;

12. *Also encourages* Member States to promote the inclusion of a gender perspective in all social inclusion strategies and initiatives, especially in terms of the economic empowerment of women and the promotion of a gender-sensitive policy environment in the workplace;

13. *Invites* Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, development and social partners, the private sector and civil society organizations to continue to share their experience in respect of practical initiatives to promote economic, civil and political participation and anti-discrimination measures and other measures for advancing social integration;

14. *Also invites* Member States to consider a systematic exchange of good practices in social integration at the regional and international levels so that policymakers and other stakeholders can apply them to their national circumstances and step up progress towards achieving a “society for all”;

15. *Encourages* Member States to improve the collection and use of data disaggregated by age, sex and other relevant criteria for the formulation of policies and programmes aimed at achieving social inclusion, and stresses the importance of international cooperation in this regard;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report, taking into account the information provided by Member States and relevant actors of the United Nations system, on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

17. *Decides* to consider the question further at its seventy-fourth session under the item entitled “Social development”.

## Draft resolution IV Cooperatives in social development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [47/90](#) of 16 December 1992, [49/155](#) of 23 December 1994, [51/58](#) of 12 December 1996, [54/123](#) of 17 December 1999, [56/114](#) of 19 December 2001, [58/131](#) of 22 December 2003, [60/132](#) of 16 December 2005, [62/128](#) of 18 December 2007, [64/136](#) of 18 December 2009, [65/184](#) of 21 December 2010, [66/123](#) of 19 December 2011, [68/133](#) of 18 December 2013 and [70/128](#) of 17 December 2015 concerning cooperatives in social development,

*Recognizing* that cooperatives, in their various forms, promote the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of local communities and all people, including women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, are becoming a significant factor of economic and social development and contribute to the eradication of poverty and hunger,

*Recognizing also* that as cooperative enterprises often serve the socially excluded and vulnerable sectors of the population that profit-driven businesses tend to neglect, they are therefore important for the support of socially inclusive policies that drive inclusive development, particularly in developing countries,

*Recognizing further* the important contribution and potential of all forms of cooperatives to the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the third United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat III), including their five-year reviews, the World Food Summit, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the outcome document of the United Nations summit, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,<sup>1</sup> and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>2</sup> and noting the acknowledgement therein of the role of cooperatives in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and in relation to financing for development,

*Noting with appreciation* the potential role of cooperative development in the improvement of the social and economic conditions of indigenous peoples and rural communities,

*Welcoming* the efforts of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to showcase the role of agricultural cooperatives, including in improving food security and nutrition, particularly in rural areas, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, improving the agricultural productivity of farmers and facilitating access to markets, savings, credit, insurance and technology,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>3</sup>
2. *Notes with appreciation* the celebration of the International Year of Cooperatives, in 2012;
3. *Encourages* all Member States, as well as the United Nations and all other relevant stakeholders, to share best practices identified through activities

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

<sup>2</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

<sup>3</sup> [A/72/159](#).

implemented during the International Year of Cooperatives and to continue those activities, as appropriate;

4. *Recalls* the draft plan of action on cooperatives for 2012 and beyond, based on the outcome document of the expert group meeting held in Ulaanbaatar in 2011 for the promotion of cooperatives for sustainable socioeconomic development, to promote focused and effective follow-up to the activities of the International Year, within existing resources;

5. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General to focus support on cooperatives as sustainable and successful business enterprises that contribute directly to employment generation, poverty and hunger eradication, education, social protection and the creation of affordable housing options across a variety of economic sectors in urban and rural areas and to review existing legislation and regulations to make the national legal and regulatory environment more conducive to the creation and growth of cooperatives by improving existing laws and regulations and/or by establishing new ones, especially in the areas of access to capital, competitiveness and fair taxation;

6. *Invites* Governments and international organizations, in partnership with cooperatives and cooperative organizations, to strengthen and build the capacity of all forms of cooperatives, especially those run by the poor, young people, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, so that they can empower people to transform their lives and communities positively and build inclusive societies;

7. *Invites* Governments to strengthen efforts to enhance food security and nutrition and to focus efforts on smallholders and women farmers, as well as on agricultural cooperatives and farmers' networks, supported by measures to improve access to markets, enable domestic and international environments and strengthen collaboration across the many initiatives in this area, including regional initiatives;

8. *Encourages* Governments to promote access to information and communications technologies as a vital channel for collaboration and the expansion of cooperatives, especially in rural areas;

9. *Also encourages* Governments to intensify and expand the availability, accessibility and dissemination of evidence-based research on the operations and contribution of cooperatives, to develop a statistical framework for the systematic collection of comprehensive data on and the best practices of cooperative enterprises, in collaboration with all stakeholders, and to raise public awareness of the linkages between cooperatives and sustainable development, especially in the areas of social inclusion, employment creation, poverty eradication, inequality reduction and peacebuilding;

10. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations, the specialized agencies and local, national and international cooperative organizations to continue to observe the International Day of Cooperatives annually, on the first Saturday of July, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution [47/90](#);

11. *Invites* Governments, in collaboration with the cooperative movement, to develop programmes aimed at enhancing the capacity-building of cooperatives, including by strengthening the organizational, management and financial skills of their members, while respecting the principles of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and to introduce and support programmes to improve the access of cooperatives to new technologies;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations and other international organizations and national, regional and international

cooperative organizations, to continue rendering support to Member States, as appropriate, in their efforts to create a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, integrating cooperative values, principles and business models into educational programming, including school curricula, as appropriate, providing assistance for human resources development, technical advice and training and promoting an exchange of experience and best practices through, inter alia, conferences, workshops and seminars at the national and regional levels, within existing resources;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.



## Draft resolution V 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<sup>1</sup> and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing,<sup>2</sup> 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 and [71/164](#) of 19 December 2016,

*Recognizing* that, in many 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,<sup>3</sup>

*Recalling* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>4</sup> 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,

*Noting* the recent 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 also* that, between 2017 and by 2030, the number of persons aged 60 years or over is projected to grow by 46 per cent, from 962 million to 1.4 billion, globally outnumbering youth, as well as children under age 10,<sup>5</sup> 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,<sup>6</sup> 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,<sup>7</sup> which recognized that population ageing is among the major factors contributing to the rising incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases, and resolution 69.3 of 29 May 2016, entitled "The

<sup>1</sup> *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 I.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>3</sup> [A/72/161](#) and [A/72/161/Corr.1](#).

<sup>4</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>5</sup> United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Ageing 2017 [highlights]* (ST/ESA/SER.A/397).

<sup>6</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1.

<sup>7</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA65/2012/REC/1.

Global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020: towards a world in which everyone can live a long and healthy life”,<sup>8</sup>

*Acknowledging* that many developing countries and countries with economies in transition are confronting a double burden of fighting emerging and re-emerging 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,

*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,

*Recognizing* the essential contribution that older persons can continue to make to the functioning of societies and towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development if adequate guarantees are in place,

*Concerned* about the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that may create additional vulnerabilities to older persons and affect their enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and noting that older women often face multiple forms of discrimination resulting from gender inequality,

*Recognizing* that the systematic review of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing by Member States at the national, regional and international levels is essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons and promoting the development of a society for all ages, underlining in this regard the coordinating role of the Commission for Social Development in this process, and acknowledging the ongoing work under the third five-year review and appraisal cycle of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and looking forward to its results, which will be assessed at the fifty-sixth session of the Commission for Social Development, in 2018,

1. *Reaffirms* the Political Declaration<sup>1</sup> and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> 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. *Recognizes* that the major challenges faced by older persons undermine their social, economic and cultural participation;

4. *Also 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, to provide social protection, access to food and housing, health care, employment, legal capacity and access to justice and to address issues

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<sup>8</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA69/2016/REC/1.

related to social integration and gender inequality, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational family interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development;

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, 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 Human Rights Council, and relevant United Nations bodies and treaty bodies;

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Independent Expert issued at the thirty-sixth session of the Human Rights Council,<sup>9</sup> and encourages Member States to be mindful of the recommendations contained therein;

7. *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;

8. *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;

9. *Invites* Member States to adopt and implement non-discriminatory policies and to systematically review and amend, where appropriate, existing practices and regulations that discriminate against older persons in order to promote an enabling environment for older persons;

10. *Encourages* Member States to address the issue of discrimination on the basis of age in relevant national legislation 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;

11. *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 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;

12. *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;

13. *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

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<sup>9</sup> A/HRC/36/48.

both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

14. *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;

15. *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;

16. *Invites* Member States to identify key priority areas for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, raising awareness of ageing issues and building national capacities to address ageing;

17. *Recommends* that Member States increase efforts to raise awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by promoting and supporting initiatives to advance a positive public image of older persons and their multiple contributions to their families, communities and societies and by working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in seeking increased attention for ageing issues;

18. *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;

19. *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;

20. *Recommends* that Governments involve older persons and their organizations in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes that affect them;

21. *Recommends* that Member States enhance their capacity to more effectively collect data, statistics and qualitative information, disaggregated when necessary by relevant factors, including sex and disability, in order to improve assessment of the situation of older persons and 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 for Sustainable Development, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, and to ensure that no one is left behind;

22. *Stresses* the importance of developing improved age-disaggregated data, and in this regard welcomes the inclusion of the topic of ageing and age-disaggregated data on the agenda of the Statistical Commission;

23. *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 procedures mandate holders, in accordance with their mandates, to pay due regard to the situation of older persons in their dialogue with Member States, in their consideration of reports or in their country missions;

24. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the Madrid Plan of Action and to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of intergenerational family interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and provide social integration;

25. *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;

26. *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;

27. *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;

28. *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;

29. *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 images of older persons;

30. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people, including older persons, have access, without discrimination, to nationally 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;

31. *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 national health systems;

32. *Recognizes* the importance of training, education and capacity-building of the health workforce, including for home-based care;

33. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the basis of age is incorporated and upheld in health policies and programmes and that the implementation of such policies and programmes is regularly monitored;

34. *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 and social welfare services, in order to address the needs of older persons;

35. *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 or are otherwise unable to care for their dependants;

36. *Calls upon* Member States to address the issue of the well-being of and adequate health care 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;

37. *Also calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;<sup>10</sup>

38. *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;

39. *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;

40. *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;

41. *Encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

42. *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;

43. *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, as well as regional initiatives, such as the Fourth Regional

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<sup>10</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

Intergovernmental Conference on Ageing and the Rights of Older Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Asunción from 27 to 30 June 2017, the fourth Economic Commission for Europe Ministerial Conference on Ageing, held in Lisbon on 21 and 22 September 2017, the Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Meeting on the Third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, held in Bangkok from 12 to 14 September 2017, and the regional review processes and reports of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa, 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;

44. *Takes note with appreciation* of the establishment of an informal network of interested United Nations entities to exchange information and integrate ageing into their work programmes on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

45. *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;

46. *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;

47. *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;

48. *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 for Sustainable Development, in particular its aspects of relevance to older persons, including gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

49. *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;

50. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing,<sup>11</sup> 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 eight 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;

51. *Encourages* Member States to continue to contribute to the work of the Open-ended Working Group, 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;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary support to the Open-ended Working Group, within existing resources, for the organization of its ninth working session, in 2018, and to include the annual sessions of the Working Group in the Organization's calendar of conferences and meetings;

53. *Invites* the Independent Expert to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-third session under the agenda item entitled "Social development";

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

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<sup>11</sup> [A/AC.278/2016/2](#) and [A/AC.278/2017/2](#).



## **Draft resolution VI**

### **Follow-up to the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond**

*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 and [71/163](#) of 19 December 2016 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth and twentieth anniversaries,

*Recognizing* that the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year in 2014 provided 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-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

*Recognizing also* that the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes, especially those relating to family 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, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and eliminating all forms of violence, in particular against women and girls, 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-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

*Recognizing* the continuing efforts of Governments, the United Nations system, regional organizations and civil society, including academic institutions, to fulfil the objectives of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at the national, regional and international levels,

*Acknowledging* that the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes have served as catalysts for a number of initiatives at the national and international levels, including many family 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,

*Acknowledging also* 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,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>1</sup>
2. *Encourages* Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize 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 and ensuring the well-being of all at all ages;
3. *Invites* Member States to invest in a variety of family-oriented policies and programmes, as important tools for, inter alia, fighting poverty, social exclusion and inequality, promoting work-family balance and gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and advancing social integration and intergenerational solidarity, to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>2</sup>
4. *Encourages* Member States to promote work-family balance as conducive to the well-being of children, the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, inter alia, through flexible working and leave arrangements, parental leave, affordable, accessible and good quality childcare and initiatives to promote the equal sharing of household responsibilities, including unpaid care work, between men and women;
5. *Also encourages* Member States to invest in family policies and programmes that promote strong intergenerational interactions, such as intergenerational living arrangements and parenting education, in an effort to promote inclusive urbanization, intergenerational solidarity and social cohesion;
6. *Further encourages* Member States 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, such as when 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 services;
7. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations trust fund on family activities;
8. *Encourages* greater 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;
9. *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 expanding 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

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<sup>1</sup> A/72/166.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 70/1.

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cooperation with all relevant stakeholders to promote family issues and develop partnerships in this regard;

10. *Calls upon* Member States and agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, in consultation with civil society and other relevant stakeholders, to continue providing information on their activities, including on good practices, in support of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes, to be included in the report of the Secretary-General;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes by Member States and by agencies and bodies of the United Nations system, including information on the status of the trust fund on family activities;

12. *Decides* to consider the topic “Implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes” at its seventy-third session under the sub-item entitled “Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family” of the item entitled “Social development”.

## Draft resolution VII Policies and programmes involving youth

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the World Programme of Action for Youth, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions [50/81](#) of 14 December 1995 and [62/126](#) of 18 December 2007,

*Recalling also* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>1</sup> and relevant international human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>2</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>3</sup>

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which for the first time the Assembly recognized children and youth as agents of change, and recognizing that the Sustainable Development Goals are integrated, indivisible and global in nature, and therefore that all of them apply to youth,

*Recalling* that youth development is not only critical to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda but that it is also recognized in other development frameworks, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>4</sup> the Istanbul Declaration<sup>5</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>6</sup> the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>7</sup> the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants,<sup>8</sup> the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)<sup>9</sup> and the draft outcome of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the appraisal of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,<sup>10</sup>

*Noting* the convening of the nineteenth World Festival of Youth and Students, held in Sochi, Russian Federation, from 14 to 22 October 2017, which emphasized the importance of promoting international and intercultural youth cooperation around the idea of peace and solidarity,

*Welcoming* the effective participation of youth representatives in national delegations at the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and relevant United Nations conferences,

*Acknowledging* that the current generation of youth is the largest one ever, and in this context reaffirming the importance of involving youth, and youth-led and youth-focused organizations, in the work of the United Nations at the national, regional and international levels in all matters of concern to them, including in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

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

<sup>5</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7)*, chap. I.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., chap. II.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution [69/15](#), annex.

<sup>8</sup> Resolution [71/1](#).

<sup>9</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>10</sup> Resolution [71/319](#), annex.

*Recognizing* that a youthful population creates significant opportunities for development, and underlining in this regard the importance of the creation by Member States of appropriate policy environments, in collaboration with the United Nations system, in order to realize a demographic dividend driven by large proportions of young people moving into the labour force, while adopting an inclusive results-based approach to development planning and implementation in accordance with national priorities and legislation, and stressing in this regard the decision of the African Union to proclaim 2017 the Year of Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investments in Youth,

*Affirming* that generating decent work and quality employment for youth is one of the biggest challenges that needs to be tackled, and emphasizing the priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth linked to the employability of youth, including education, health and access to information and technology, and bearing in mind that over 71 million young people are unemployed and 156 million working youth are in poverty, including extreme poverty,

*Emphasizing* the need to empower youth in order to achieve sustainable development, including poverty eradication, and stressing, in this regard, the commitment in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to substantially reduce by 2020 the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training and to develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment, and in this regard takes note of the call for action of the International Labour Organization on the youth employment crisis and the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth,

*Emphasizing also* the need to substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship, and to ensure, by 2020, that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy,

*Recalling* that Member States have an important role in promoting and protecting the rights and in meeting the needs and aspirations of youth, including youth with disabilities, and recognizing that the ways in which young people are able to fulfil their potential as agents of change will influence social and economic conditions and the well-being and livelihood of future generations,

*Recognizing* the important and positive contribution of young people in efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security,

*Recalling* the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes, adopted at the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in 1998, and emphasizing the importance of the twentieth anniversary of the Conference, to be marked in 2018, and the need for a meaningful assessment of the progress made in youth development and the challenges that remain,

*Welcoming* the role of the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth and her work in addressing the needs of youth, as well as, inter alia, as a harmonizer with different United Nations entities, Governments, civil society, youth organizations, academia and media towards enhancing, empowering and strengthening the position of young people within and outside of the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on youth development links to sustainable development;<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> A/72/190.

2. *Reaffirms* the World Programme of Action for Youth, and emphasizes that all 15 priority areas of the Programme of Action are interrelated and mutually reinforcing;

3. *Also reaffirms* the commitment of Heads of State and Government in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind, including youth, and the importance of implementing, following up and reviewing strategies that adequately address youth issues and give young people everywhere real opportunities for full, effective, constructive and sustainable participation in society;

4. *Reiterates* that the primary responsibility for implementing the World Programme of Action for Youth lies with Member States, and urges Governments, in consultation with youth, youth-led and youth-focused organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to develop integrated, holistic and inclusive youth policies and programmes, as well as coherent cross-sectoral efforts, based on the Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to evaluate them regularly as part of the follow-up action on and implementation of the Programme of Action at all levels;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to consider, on a voluntary basis, the indicators proposed in the report of the Secretary-General<sup>12</sup> for their selection and adaptation in monitoring and assessing the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, giving particular attention to young women, marginalized groups and young people belonging to vulnerable groups or in vulnerable situations, taking into account the national social and economic circumstances in each country;

6. *Stresses* the need to strengthen and support the capacity of national statistical offices to design, collect and analyse age-disaggregated data so as to contribute effectively to follow-up, reporting and accountability for the achievement of the youth dimensions of the 2030 Agenda;

7. *Urges* Member States to promote equal opportunities for all, to eliminate all forms of discrimination against young people, including that based on race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, and to foster social integration for social groups such as young persons with disabilities, young migrants and indigenous youth on an equal basis with others;

8. *Reiterates* that the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, in particular as they affect children and youth, is crucial for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, recalls the commitment to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all, including the strengthening of international cooperation through the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments and the transfer of appropriate technology and capacity-building with regard to youth, and the need for urgent action on all sides, including more ambitious national development strategies, efforts and investment in youth, backed by increased international support and, inter alia, by providing youth with a nurturing environment for the full realization of their human rights and capabilities, in order to realize the opportunity of the demographic dividend offered by the largest number of young people ever in the history of humankind, and calls for the increased participation of youth, youth-led and youth-focused organizations in the development of such national development strategies;

9. *Emphasizes* the role of quality health education and literacy in improving health outcomes over a lifetime, and in this regard encourages its promotion by Member States among young people, including through evidence-based education

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<sup>12</sup> E/CN.5/2013/8.

and information strategies and programmes, both in and out of school, and through public campaigns, and to increase the access of youth to affordable, safe, effective, sustainable and youth-friendly health-care services and social services, safe drinking water and adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene, without discrimination, by paying special attention to and raising awareness regarding sports and physical activity, nutrition, including eating disorders, obesity, mental health and well-being, the prevention, control and effects of communicable and non-communicable diseases, the prevention of adolescent pregnancies and sexual and reproductive health care, and recognizes the need to develop safe, affordable and youth-friendly counselling and substance abuse prevention programmes;

10. *Calls upon* Member States to accelerate efforts to scale up scientifically accurate age-appropriate comprehensive education, 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, with information on sexual and reproductive health, 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 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;

11. *Emphasizes* that addressing the specific needs of young people in the response to HIV and AIDS is a key element in efforts to achieve an AIDS-free generation, and urges Member States to develop accessible, available and affordable primary health-care services of high quality, including sexual and reproductive health care, as well as education programmes, including those related to sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS, and to strengthen efforts in this regard, including by ensuring the active involvement of young people living with or affected by HIV in the response;

12. *Also emphasizes* the right to education, recognizes that investment in universal, quality and inclusive education and training is the most important policy investment States can make to ensure the immediate and long-term development of youth, and reiterates that access to inclusive, equitable and quality formal and non-formal education, at all levels, including, as appropriate, catch-up and literacy education, including in information and communications technologies for those who did not receive formal education, information and communications technologies and volunteerism are important factors that enable young people to acquire the relevant skills and to build their capacities, including for employability and entrepreneurial development, and to gain decent and productive work, and calls upon Member States to take the actions necessary to ensure that young people have access to such services and opportunities that will allow them to be drivers of development;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to accelerate their efforts to close the digital divide among youth by ensuring that information and communications technologies are fully and appropriately integrated into education and training at all levels, including in the development of curricula, teacher training and institutional administration and management, and in support of the concept of lifelong learning;

14. *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 in 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;

15. *Also urges* Member States to address the challenges faced by girls and young women, as well as gender stereotypes that perpetuate all forms of discrimination and violence against girls and young women, including harmful practices, and the stereotypical roles of men and women that hinder social development, by reaffirming the commitment to the empowerment of women and gender equality and the human rights of all women and girls, and to engage, educate, encourage and support men and boys to take responsibility for their behaviour in this regard, including their sexual and reproductive behaviour;

16. *Further urges* Member States to mainstream a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease, and to strengthen policies and programmes that seek to improve, ensure and broaden the full, effective and structured participation of young women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all of their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including by providing access to quality education at all levels, ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work and strengthening their economic independence;

17. *Encourages* Member States to take measures that minimize the negative effects of globalization and maximize its benefits, and emphasizes the importance of a fair globalization in offering relevant education and training for young people in order that they may reach their full personal development and that enable their access to decent jobs and better employment opportunities in order to meet the needs of changing labour markets and enable young migrants to enjoy their human rights;

18. *Recognizes* that the international community faces increasing challenges posed by climate change and the loss of biodiversity, which have increased vulnerabilities and inequalities with direct and indirect implications for the well-being of youth and which could make youth, particularly in developing countries and small island developing States, vulnerable to their adverse impacts, including through suffering disproportionately in labour markets in times of crisis created by climate change, and calls for the enhanced cooperation of and concerted action by Member States with youth in order to address those challenges, taking into account the positive role that the education of youth can play in that respect;

19. *Also recognizes* that the sharing of family responsibilities creates an enabling family environment for the empowerment of youth, which contributes to development, that youth make a significant contribution to the welfare of their families, and that particular attention must be paid to solutions to youth unemployment in order to generate the human and social capital that is essential for social and economic development;

20. *Further recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations, and in this regard recognizes the importance of opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;



21. *Recognizes* all recent efforts to promote the youth, peace and security agenda, and calls upon Member States and relevant United Nations organs and entities to consider ways to increase the meaningful and inclusive participation of youth in conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, post-conflict processes and humanitarian action, as well as to take concrete measures to further assist youth in armed conflict situations, in accordance with the World Programme of Action for Youth, and to encourage the involvement of youth, where appropriate, in activities concerning the protection of children and youth affected by armed conflict situations, and recognizes the importance of protecting schools and universities from military use in contravention of international humanitarian law;

22. *Urges* Member States to take concerted action, in conformity with international law, to remove obstacles to the full realization of the rights of young people living under foreign occupation, colonial rule and in other areas of conflict or post-conflict situations in order to promote the achievement of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

23. *Also urges* Member States to take effective measures, in conformity with international law, to protect young people, including youth in marginalized groups affected or exploited by terrorism;

24. *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 for Sustainable Development;

25. *Urges* Member States to consider including youth delegates in their delegations at all relevant discussions in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and relevant United Nations conferences, as appropriate, bearing in mind the principles of gender balance and non-discrimination, and emphasizes that such youth representatives should be selected through a transparent process that ensures that they have a suitable mandate to represent young people in their countries;

26. *Calls upon* the United Nations Programme on Youth to continue to act as the focal point within the United Nations system for promoting further collaboration and coordination on youth-related matters;

27. *Calls upon* donors, including Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to actively contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund in order to facilitate the participation of youth representatives from developing countries in the activities of the United Nations, taking into account the need for greater geographical balance in terms of youth representation, as well as to accelerate the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and to support the production of the *World Youth Report*, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate action to encourage contributions to the Fund;

28. *Acknowledges* the increased collaboration through the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development in developing the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth, requests United Nations entities, within existing resources, to continue their coordination towards a more coherent, comprehensive and integrated approach to youth development, calls upon United Nations entities and relevant partners to support national, regional and international efforts in addressing challenges hindering youth development, and in this regard encourages close

collaboration with Member States as well as other relevant stakeholders, including civil society;

29. *Recognizes* the role of the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth and her task of bringing the voices of young people to the United Nations system in the areas of participation, advocacy, partnerships and harmonization identified in her workplan, and encourages the Envoy to continue to work closely with Governments, United Nations entities, civil society, youth organizations, academia and media by empowering and strengthening the position of young people within and outside of the United Nations system, including by conducting country visits, upon the request of the Member States concerned, and calls upon Member States and United Nations entities to support, as appropriate, the Envoy in her efforts to advance the situation of youth globally;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the implementation of the present resolution, to be prepared in consultation with Member States as well as the relevant specialized agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, taking into account the work done by the United Nations system, and encourages the Secretariat to consult, as appropriate, with youth-led and youth-focused organizations.

40. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

**Document considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of social development**

The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretariat transmitting an overview of the report entitled “World Social Situation 2017: Promoting inclusion through social protection”<sup>1</sup> submitted under the item entitled “Social development”.

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<sup>1</sup> [A/72/211](#).