



Seventy-fourth session

Agenda item 70 (c)

Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives**Report of the Third Committee****Rapporteur:* Mr. Firas Hassan **Jabbar** (Iraq)**I. Introduction**

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 20 September 2019, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”, the sub-item entitled “Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives” and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the sub-item jointly with sub-item (a), entitled “Implementation of human rights instruments”; sub-item (b), entitled “Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms”; and sub-item (d), entitled “Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action”, and held a general discussion on item 70, entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”, as a whole at its 17th to 36th meetings, from 14 to 18, 21 to 25 and on 29 October. The Committee considered proposals and took action on the sub-item at its 43rd, 45th and 46th meetings, on 5 and 14 November. An account of the Committee’s consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records.¹

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in five parts, under the symbols [A/74/399](#), [A/74/399/Add.1](#), [A/74/399/Add.2](#), [A/74/399/Add.3](#) and [A/74/399/Add.4](#).

¹ [A/C.3/74/SR.17](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.18](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.19](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.20](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.21](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.22](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.23](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.24](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.25](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.26](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.27](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.28](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.29](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.30](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.31](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.32](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.33](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.34](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.35](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.36](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.43](#), [A/C.3/74/SR.45](#) and [A/C.3/74/SR.46](#).



3. For the documents before the Committee under this sub-item, see document [A/74/399](#).
4. At the 45th meeting, on 14 November, the representative of Azerbaijan made a statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee under the sub-item.²

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.26](#)

5. At its 45th meeting, on 14 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” ([A/C.3/74/L.26](#)), submitted by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Andorra, Argentina, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Georgia, Israel, Maldives, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Zealand, Palau, the Republic of Moldova, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia and Tuvalu joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.
6. At the same meeting, the representative of Finland made a statement on behalf of the European Union.
7. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.26](#) (see para. 47, draft resolution I).
8. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Singapore, Japan, China, Nicaragua, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Myanmar, Burundi, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, the Russian Federation, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. After the adoption, statements were made by the representatives of Belarus and Cuba.

B. Draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.27](#)

9. At its 45th meeting, on 14 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran” ([A/C.3/74/L.27](#)), submitted by Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Monaco, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Andorra, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Tuvalu and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.
10. At the same meeting, the representative of Canada made a statement.

² See [A/C.3/74/SR.45](#).

11. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.27](#) by a recorded vote of 84 to 30, with 66 abstentions (see para. 47, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:³

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen.

Against:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Belarus, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Serbia, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bhutan, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Zambia.

12. Before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America, and statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Pakistan, China, Belarus, the Russian Federation, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cuba and Burundi. After the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Japan, Israel and Zimbabwe.

C. Draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.28](#)

13. At its 45th meeting, on 14 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine" ([A/C.3/74/L.28](#)), submitted by Albania, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta,

³ The delegation of Bangladesh subsequently indicated that it would have abstained.

Marshall Islands, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Belgium, Italy, Japan, Micronesia (Federated States of) and Romania joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

14. At the same meeting, the representative of Ukraine made a statement.

15. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.28](#) by a recorded vote of 67 to 23, with 82 abstentions (see para. 47, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu.

Against:

Armenia, Belarus, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Philippines, Russian Federation, Serbia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

16. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Estonia, Georgia and Ukraine, and statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Azerbaijan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. After the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Burundi, China, Argentina, Belarus, Zimbabwe, Qatar and Singapore.

D. Draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.29](#)

17. At its 45th meeting, on 14 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar” ([A/C.3/74/L.29](#)), submitted by Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the States that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, taking into account also the provisions of General Assembly resolution [73/5](#) of 16 October 2019) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Subsequently, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Haiti, Iceland, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Switzerland and the United States of America joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

18. At the same meeting, the Committee had before it a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly ([A/C.3/74/L.68](#)).

19. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Saudi Arabia made a statement.

20. Also at its 45th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.29](#) by a recorded vote of 140 to 9, with 32 abstentions (see para. 47, draft resolution IV). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen.

Against:

Belarus, Cambodia, China, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Philippines, Russian Federation, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cameroon, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, India, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Serbia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia.

21. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Switzerland, Turkey, Finland (on behalf of the European Union and its member States) and the United States of America, and statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Myanmar, the Russian Federation and the Philippines. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of China and Liechtenstein, and a statement was also made by the representative of Myanmar.

22. At its 46th meeting, on 14 November, the Committee continued to hear statements in explanation of vote after the vote by the representatives of Thailand, Nepal, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Viet Nam, Bangladesh, Japan, Zimbabwe, Singapore and Indonesia.

E. Draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.30/Rev.1](#)

Question of the consideration of the draft resolution on “Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic” by the Third Committee at its seventy-fourth session

Action on draft resolution [A/C.3/74/L.30/Rev.1](#)

23. At its 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the Committee considered the question of the consideration of the draft resolution on “Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic” at its seventy-fourth session, which had been submitted after the deadline of 30 October 2019 for submission of proposals under the item, and heard a statement by the Chair of the Committee.

24. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic, the United States of America, Saudi Arabia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Russian Federation.

25. Also at the same meeting, a statement on a point of order was made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, to which the Chair responded.

26. Also at the 43rd meeting, the representative of Saudi Arabia made a statement.

27. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic moved for the suspension of the meeting within the terms of rule 118 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

28. Also at the same meeting, a statement on a point of order was made by the representative of the United States, to which the Chair responded.

29. Also at the 43rd meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement on a point of order.

30. At the same meeting, the Committee rejected the motion to suspend the meeting by a recorded vote of 88 to 18, with 37 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen.

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda.

31. After the vote, a statement in explanation of vote was made by the representative of Colombia.
32. Also at the same meeting, statements on a point of order were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Islamic Republic of Iran.
33. Also at the 43rd meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic also made a statement on a point of order with reference to rule 123 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
34. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Russian Federation, China, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic made statements.
35. Also at the same meeting, the Chair ruled that rule 123 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly was not applicable to the consideration of the question and to proceed to the vote.
36. Also at the 43rd meeting, the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic appealed against the ruling of the Chair within the terms of rule 113 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
37. At the same meeting, the Committee rejected the appeal against the ruling of the Chair by a recorded vote of 89 to 13, with 36 abstentions. The voting was as follows:⁴

⁴ The delegation of Mexico subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote against.

In favour:

Belarus, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen.

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Viet Nam.

38. Also at the same meeting, the Committee voted in favour of the consideration of the draft resolution on "Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic" by the Committee at its seventy-fourth session by a recorded vote of 91 to 19, with 40 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen.

Against:

Algeria, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cameroon, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Grenada, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mauritania, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Viet Nam, Zambia.

39. Before the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Finland (on behalf of the European Union and its member States), Argentina and Liechtenstein (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, New Zealand and Norway). After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic and Algeria.

40. At its 46th meeting, on 14 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic" (A/C.3/74/L.30/Rev.1), submitted by Albania, Bahrain, Estonia, Kuwait, Latvia, Lithuania, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. Subsequently, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

41. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the United States.

42. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement on a point of order, to which the Chair responded.

43. Also at the 46th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic.

44. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, by a recorded vote of 106 to 15, with 58 abstentions (see para. 47, draft resolution V). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo,

Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen.

Against:

Algeria, Belarus, Burundi, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mauritania, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia.

45. Before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of Saudi Arabia, and statements in explanation of the vote were made by the representatives of Burundi, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Switzerland, Cuba and Belarus. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Mexico, Argentina, Zimbabwe and Turkey; statements were also made by the representatives of Finland (on behalf of the European Union and its member States), Japan, Liechtenstein and Canada.

46. Also at the same meeting, statements in exercise of the right of reply were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic, Japan and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

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

Draft resolution I **Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments,

Recalling all previous resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including Assembly resolution [73/180](#) of 17 December 2018 and Council resolution [40/20](#) of 22 March 2019,¹ and mindful of the need for the international community to strengthen its coordinated efforts aimed at achieving the implementation of those resolutions,

Deeply concerned at the grave human rights situation, the pervasive culture of impunity and the lack of accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Stressing the importance of following up on the recommendations contained in the report of the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,² and expressing grave concern at the detailed findings contained therein,

Recalling the responsibility of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to protect its population from crimes against humanity, and recalling also that the commission of inquiry urged the leadership of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prevent and suppress crimes against humanity and to ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and brought to justice,

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,³ regretting that he still has not been allowed to visit the country and that he has received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and taking note also of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted in accordance with resolution [73/180](#),⁴

Mindful that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁵ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁵ the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁶ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women⁷

¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/74/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

² [A/HRC/25/63](#).

³ [A/74/275/Rev.1](#).

⁴ [A/74/268](#).

⁵ See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,⁸ and urging full implementation of these Conventions, and of the recommendations contained in the concluding observations from treaty body reviews,

Noting the submission, in December 2018, by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of its initial report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,⁹

Stressing the importance of submitting the Democratic People's Republic of Korea third periodic report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which has been overdue since 30 June 2008, and its third periodic report to the Human Rights Committee, which has been overdue since 1 January 2004,

Noting the visit of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of persons with disabilities to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in 2017, and encouraging the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement all of the recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur on her visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea submitted to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-seventh session,¹⁰

Stressing the importance of extending the cooperation of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to other United Nations special procedures and human rights mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in accordance with their terms of reference,

Acknowledging the participation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the third universal periodic review process, noting the acceptance by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of 132 of the 262 recommendations,¹¹ and its stated commitment to implement them, while expressing its concern that the recommendations of the two previous reviews have not been implemented thus far,

Noting with regret that independent civil society organizations cannot operate in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and that, as a result, no civil society organization based in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was able to submit a stakeholder report in the context of the universal periodic review process,

Noting the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in providing human rights education to a small number of government officials in Geneva in May 2019, and urging that such technical cooperation be broadened,

Stressing the importance of extending the cooperation of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights field-based structure in the region,

Noting the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization in order to improve the health situation in the country,

Noting also the collaboration established between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United Nations Children's Fund to improve the nutritional status of children and the quality of children's education,

⁸ Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

⁹ [CRPD/C/PRK/1](#).

¹⁰ [A/HRC/37/56/Add.1](#).

¹¹ [A/HRC/42/10](#).

Noting further the activities undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme, on a modest scale, in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and encouraging the engagement of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the international community to ensure that the programmes benefit the persons in need of assistance,

Noting the cooperation between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the World Food Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on a number of assessments, underscoring the importance of those assessments in analysing changes in the national, household and individual situation with regard to food security, nutrition, health, water and sanitation, and thereby in supporting donor confidence in the targeting of aid programmes and monitoring, and noting with appreciation the work of international aid operators,

Stressing the importance of international humanitarian aid organizations to carry out independent needs assessments and implement their humanitarian programmes consistent with international standards and humanitarian principles, including in areas with no operational presence, and expressing concern about the latest action taken by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to reduce the number of United Nations agencies' staff in the country,

Taking note of the United Nations humanitarian report entitled "Democratic People's Republic of Korea 2019: needs and priorities" and the joint rapid food security assessments conducted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Food Programme and their calls to address the critical humanitarian needs in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Noting with concern the findings of the United Nations that 10.9 million people in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are estimated to be undernourished, one third of children 6 to 23 months of age do not receive a minimum acceptable diet, 1 in 5 children suffer from stunting (chronic malnutrition), around 9 million people are estimated to have limited access to quality health services, 39 per cent, or an estimated 9.75 million, of people do not have access to a safely managed drinking water source, including 56 per cent of people living in rural areas, condemning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for diverting its resources into pursuing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles over the welfare of its people, and emphasizing the necessity for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect and ensure the welfare and inherent dignity of the people in the country, as referred to by the Security Council in its resolutions [2321 \(2016\)](#) of 30 November 2016, [2371 \(2017\)](#) of 5 August 2017, [2375 \(2017\)](#) of 11 September 2017 and [2397 \(2017\)](#) of 22 December 2017,

Taking note of the strategic framework for cooperation between the United Nations and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the period 2017–2021 and the Government's commitment in accordance with the principles, goals and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals¹² and in line with its commitments to international agreements and conventions,

Noting with grave concern the urgency and importance of the issue of international abductions and of the immediate return of all abductees, the long years of suffering experienced by abductees and their families, and the lack of positive action by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, notably since the investigations on all the Japanese nationals commenced on the basis of the government-level consultations held between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Japan in May 2014, and calling upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to address

¹² See resolution [70/1](#).

all allegations of enforced disappearances, provide accurate information to the families of the victims on the fates and whereabouts of their missing relatives and resolve all issues related to all abductees at the earliest possible date, in particular the return of abductees of Japan and the Republic of Korea,

Noting the urgency and importance of the issue of separated families, including affected Koreans worldwide, in this regard welcoming the resumption of the reunions of separated families across the border in August 2018 and the commitments made on this issue at the inter-Korean summit held on 19 September 2018 to strengthen humanitarian cooperation to fundamentally resolve the issue of separated families, and highlighting the importance of allowing permanent regular reunions and contact between separated families, including through meetings at an easily accessible location and regular facility, regular written correspondence, video reunions, and the exchange of video messages, in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions,

Welcoming and further encouraging the efforts of Member States to raise international awareness about the human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and noting that human rights, including gender equality, are intrinsically linked to peace and security,

Welcoming the diplomatic efforts, and noting the importance of dialogue and engagements, including inter-Korean dialogue, to seek improvement of the human rights and humanitarian situation in the country,

Underlining the efforts of the Secretary-General to contribute to improving inter-Korean relations and promoting reconciliation and stability on the Korean Peninsula and the well-being of the Korean people,

1. *Condemns* the long-standing and ongoing systematic, widespread and gross violations of human rights in and by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including those that may amount to crimes against humanity according to the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution [22/13](#) of 21 March 2013,¹³ and those identified by the group of independent experts on accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,¹⁴ established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution [31/18](#) of 23 March 2016,¹⁵ and by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the continuing impunity for such violations;

2. *Expresses its very serious concern* about:

(a) The persistence of continuing reports of violations of human rights, including the detailed findings made by the commission of inquiry in its report,² such as:

(i) Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including inhuman conditions of detention; rape; public executions; extrajudicial and arbitrary detention; the absence of due process and the rule of law, including fair trial guarantees and an independent judiciary; extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions; the imposition of the death penalty for political and religious reasons; collective punishments extending up to three generations; and the extensive use of forced labour;

¹³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

¹⁴ See [A/HRC/34/66/Add.1](#).

¹⁵ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/71/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

- (ii) The existence of an extensive system of political prison camps, where a vast number of persons are deprived of their liberty and subjected to deplorable conditions, including forced labour, and where alarming violations of human rights are perpetrated;
- (iii) Enforced and involuntary disappearances of persons by arrest, detention or abduction against their will; refusal to disclose the fate and whereabouts of the persons concerned; and refusal to acknowledge the deprivation of their liberty, which places such persons subjected thereto outside the protection of the law and which has had the effect of inflicting severe suffering on them and their families;
- (iv) The forcible transfer of populations and the limitations imposed on every person who wishes to move freely within the country and travel abroad, including the punishment of those who leave or try to leave the country without permission, or their families, as well as punishment of persons who are returned;
- (v) The situation of refugees and asylum seekers expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and retaliations against citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have been repatriated from abroad, leading to punishments of internment, torture, other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, sexual violence or the death penalty, and in this regard strongly urges all States to respect the fundamental principle of non-refoulement, to treat those who seek refuge humanely and to ensure unhindered access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office, with a view to protecting the human rights of those who seek refuge, and once again urges States parties to comply with their obligations under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees¹⁶ and the 1967 Protocol thereto¹⁷ in relation to refugees from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are covered by those instruments;
- (vi) All-pervasive and severe restrictions, both online and offline, on the freedoms of thought, conscience, religion or belief, opinion and expression, peaceful assembly and association, the right to privacy and equal access to information, by such means as the unlawful and arbitrary surveillance, persecution, torture, imprisonment and, in some instances, summary executions of individuals exercising their freedom of opinion and expression, religion or belief, and their families, and the right of everyone, including women, to take part in the conduct of public affairs, directly or through freely chosen representatives, of his or her country;
- (vii) Violations of economic, social and cultural rights, which have led to food insecurity, severe hunger, malnutrition, widespread health problems and other hardship for the population in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in particular for women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and political prisoners;
- (viii) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls, in particular the creation of internal conditions that force women and girls to leave the country and make them extremely vulnerable to trafficking in persons for the purpose of prostitution, domestic servitude or forced marriage and the subjection of women and girls to gender-based discrimination, including in the political and social spheres, forced abortions and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence;

¹⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.

(ix) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children, in particular the continued lack of access to basic economic, social and cultural rights for many children, and in this regard notes the particularly vulnerable situation faced by, inter alia, returned or repatriated children, street children, children with disabilities, children whose parents are detained, children living in detention or in institutions and children in conflict with the law;

(x) Violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, especially violations involving the use of collective camps and coercive measures that target the rights of persons with disabilities to decide freely and responsibly on the number and spacing of their children and allegations of the possible use of persons with disabilities in medical testing, forced relocation to rural areas and separation of children with disabilities from their parents;

(xi) Violations of workers' rights, including the right to freedom of association and effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, the right to strike as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁵ and the prohibition of the economic exploitation of children and of any harmful or hazardous work of children as defined by the obligations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea under the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁶ as well as the exploitation of workers sent abroad from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to work under conditions that reportedly amount to forced labour, recalling paragraph 11 of Security Council resolution 2371 (2017) and paragraph 17 of resolution 2375 (2017), in which the Council decided that Member States shall not provide work authorizations for nationals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in their jurisdictions, and also recalling paragraph 8 of Council resolution 2397 (2017), in which the Council decided that Member States shall repatriate to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea all nationals from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea earning income in that Member State's jurisdiction and all government safety oversight attachés of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea monitoring workers from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea abroad immediately, but not later than 24 months from 22 December 2017, unless the Member State determines that a Democratic People's Republic of Korea national is a national of that Member State or a Democratic People's Republic of Korea national's repatriation is prohibited, subject to applicable national and international law, including international refugee law and international human rights law, the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations¹⁸ and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,¹⁹ and urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to promote, respect and protect the human rights of workers, including workers repatriated to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(xii) Discrimination based on the *songbun* system, which classifies people on the basis of State-assigned social class and birth and also includes consideration of political opinions and religion;

(xiii) Violence and discrimination against women, including unequal access to employment, discriminatory laws and regulations;

¹⁸ See resolution 169 (II).

¹⁹ Resolution 22 A (I).

(b) The continued refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to extend an invitation to the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea or to extend cooperation to the Special Rapporteur and several other United Nations special procedures, in accordance with their terms of reference, as well as to other United Nations human rights mechanisms;

(c) The continued lack of acknowledgement by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of the grave human rights situation in the country and its consequential lack of action to report on the state of implementation of the recommendations contained in the outcome of its first²⁰ and second²¹ universal periodic reviews and to give consideration to the concluding observations of the treaty bodies;

3. *Condemns* the systematic abduction, denial of repatriation and subsequent enforced disappearance of persons, including those from other countries, on a large scale and as a matter of State policy, and in this regard strongly calls upon the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea urgently to resolve these issues of international concern, in a transparent manner, including by ensuring the immediate return of abductees;

4. *Underscores its very serious concern* regarding reports of torture, summary executions, arbitrary detention, abductions and other forms of human rights violations and abuses that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea commits against citizens of other countries within and outside of its territory;

5. *Expresses its very deep concern* at the precarious humanitarian situation in the country, which could rapidly deteriorate owing to limited resilience to natural disasters and to government policies causing limitations in the availability of and access to adequate food, compounded by structural weaknesses in agricultural production resulting in significant shortages of diversified food and the State restrictions on the cultivation of and trade in foodstuffs, as well as the prevalence of chronic and acute malnutrition, particularly among the most vulnerable groups, pregnant and lactating women, children, persons with disabilities, older persons and prisoners, including political prisoners, exacerbated due to lack of access to basic services, including health care as well as water, sanitation and hygiene services, and urges the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in this regard, to take preventive and remedial action, cooperating with international donor and humanitarian agencies for accessing people belonging to vulnerable groups, facilitating the implementation of programmes and monitoring humanitarian assistance consistent with international standards;

6. *Welcomes* the latest report to the Human Rights Council of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

7. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the report of the group of independent experts on accountability for human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,²² established pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution [31/18](#) of 23 March 2016, including options to seek accountability and secure truth and justice for all victims;

8. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights²³ on steps taken pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution [34/24](#) of

²⁰ [A/HRC/13/13](#).

²¹ [A/HRC/27/10](#).

²² [A/HRC/34/66/Add.1](#).

²³ [A/HRC/40/36](#).

24 March 2017²⁴ to strengthen the capacity of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, including its field-based structure in Seoul, to allow the implementation of relevant recommendations made by the group of independent experts on accountability aimed at strengthening current monitoring and documentation efforts, establishing a central repository for information and evidence and having experts in legal accountability assess all information and testimonies with a view to developing possible strategies to be used in any future accountability process;

9. *Also welcomes* the steps taken pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 40/20 to continue the efforts outlined above, expresses strong support for the work being undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner in furtherance of the resolution, with the aim of ensuring accountability for suspected violations of international law committed in and by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and calls upon all States to support such efforts;

10. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the work of the commission of inquiry, recognizes the continuing importance of its report, and regrets that the commission received no cooperation from the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including with regard to access to the country;

11. *Acknowledges* the commission of inquiry's finding that the body of testimony gathered and the information received provide reasonable grounds to believe that crimes against humanity have been committed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, pursuant to policies established at the highest level of the State for decades and by institutions under the effective control of its leadership, which was confirmed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in her report to the Human Rights Council submitted pursuant to resolution 34/24;

12. *Expresses its concern* at the failure of the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to prosecute those responsible for human rights violations, including violations which the commission of inquiry has said may amount to crimes against humanity, and encourages the international community to cooperate with accountability efforts and to ensure that such crimes do not remain unpunished;

13. *Encourages* the Security Council to continue its consideration of the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the commission of inquiry and take appropriate action to ensure accountability, including through consideration of referral of the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the International Criminal Court and consideration of further sanctions in order to target effectively those who appear to be most responsible for human rights violations that the commission has said may constitute crimes against humanity;

14. *Also encourages* the Security Council to continue to discuss the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including the country's human rights situation, in the light of the serious concerns expressed in the present resolution, and looks forward to its continued and more active engagement on this matter;

15. *Encourages* the continuing endeavours of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights field-based structure in Seoul and its efforts in developing a central repository for information and evidence relating to suspected violations of international law, and assessing all such evidence and information in order to develop possible strategies to be used in any future accountability process, and welcomes its regular reporting to the Human Rights Council;

²⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

16. *Calls upon* Member States to undertake to ensure that the field-based structure of the Office of the High Commissioner can function with independence, has sufficient resources and support to fulfil its mandate, enjoys full cooperation with relevant Member States and is not subjected to any reprisals or threats;

17. *Strongly urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, in this regard:

(a) To immediately put an end to the systematic, widespread and grave violations of human rights emphasized above, inter alia, by implementing fully the measures set out in the above-mentioned resolutions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council, and the recommendations addressed to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the Council in the context of the universal periodic review and by the commission of inquiry, the United Nations special procedures and treaty bodies;

(b) To immediately close the political prison camps and to release all political prisoners unconditionally and without any delay;

(c) To protect its inhabitants, address the issue of impunity and ensure that those responsible for crimes involving violations of human rights are brought to justice before an independent judiciary;

(d) To tackle the root causes leading to outflows of migrants and refugees and to prosecute those involved in migrant smuggling, trafficking in human beings and extortion, while not criminalizing the victims of trafficking;

(e) To ensure that everyone within the territory of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea enjoys the right to liberty of movement and is free to leave the country, including for the purpose of seeking asylum outside the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, without interference by the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(f) To ensure that citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are expelled or returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are able to return in safety and dignity, are treated humanely and are not subjected to any kind of punishment, and to provide information on their status and treatment;

(g) To provide citizens of other countries detained in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with protections, including freedom of communication with, and access to, consular officers in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,²⁵ to which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party, and any other necessary arrangements to confirm their status and to communicate with their families;

(h) To extend its full cooperation to the Special Rapporteur, including by granting him full, free and unimpeded access to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and to other special procedures of the Human Rights Council as well as to other United Nations human rights mechanisms so that a full needs assessment of the human rights situation may be made;

(i) To engage in technical cooperation activities in the field of human rights with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her Office, including the field-based structure in the region, as pursued by the High Commissioner in recent years, with a view to improving the situation of human rights in the country;

²⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

(j) To implement the accepted recommendations stemming from the universal periodic reviews and to consider positively those recommendations which are still under consideration from the third review cycle, and to submit a midterm voluntary report to detail progress on the implementation of recommendations accepted from the third cycle;

(k) To become a member of the International Labour Organization, to enact legislation and adopt practices to comply with international labour standards and to consider ratifying all the relevant conventions, in particular the core labour conventions of the International Labour Organization;

(l) To continue and reinforce its cooperation with United Nations humanitarian agencies;

(m) To ensure full, safe and unhindered access of persons in vulnerable situations to humanitarian aid, and take measures to allow humanitarian agencies to survey the needs of persons belonging to vulnerable groups, to obtain critical baseline data and to enable the unhindered and impartial delivery of such humanitarian aid to all parts of the country, on the basis of need in accordance with humanitarian principles, as it pledged to do, to furthermore ensure access to adequate basic services and implement more effective food security and nutrition policies, including through sustainable agriculture, sound food production and distribution measures and the allocation of more funds to the food sector, and to allow adequate monitoring of humanitarian assistance;

(n) To further improve cooperation with the United Nations country team members and development agencies so that they can directly contribute to improving the living conditions of the civilian population, including progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;¹²

(o) To consider ratifying and acceding to the remaining international human rights treaties, which would enable a dialogue with the human rights treaty bodies, to resume reporting to monitoring bodies on treaties to which it is a party, to participate meaningfully in treaty body reviews, and to give consideration to the concluding observations of such bodies in order to improve the human rights situation in the country;

18. *Urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to implement the recommendations of the commission of inquiry, the group of independent experts, and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights without delay;

19. *Reiterates* the importance of maintaining high on the international agenda the grave human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including through sustained communications, advocacy and outreach initiatives, and requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen those activities;

20. *Encourages* all Member States, the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Secretariat, relevant specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and forums, civil society organizations, foundations and engaged business enterprises and other stakeholders towards which the commission of inquiry has directed recommendations to implement or take forward those recommendations;

21. *Encourages* the United Nations system as a whole to continue to address the grave human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in a coordinated and unified manner;

22. *Encourages* the relevant United Nations programmes, funds, specialized agencies and other related organizations to assist the Government of the Democratic

People's Republic of Korea in the implementation of recommendations stemming from the universal periodic reviews, human rights treaty body reviews and from the report of the commission of inquiry;

23. *Calls upon* the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to engage constructively with international interlocutors with a view to promoting concrete improvements in the human rights situation on the ground, including through human rights dialogues, official visits to the country that include adequate access to fully assess human rights conditions, cooperation initiatives and more people-to-people contact as a matter of priority;

24. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at its seventy-fifth session, and to this end requests the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and requests the Special Rapporteur to continue to report his findings and recommendations, as well as to report on the follow-up to the implementation of the recommendations of the commission of inquiry.

Draft resolution II

Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ the International Covenants on Human Rights² and other international human rights instruments,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, the most recent of which is resolution [73/181](#) of 17 December 2018,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution [73/181](#)³ and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran,⁴ submitted pursuant to Council resolution [40/18](#) of 22 March 2019;⁵

2. *Recalls* the pledges made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with regard to improving the human rights situation in the country;

3. *Notes* the significant decline in the number of executions in 2018, notably due to the reduction in the number of executions for drug-related offences, following amendments to the Anti-Narcotics Law, passed in October 2017;

4. *Welcomes* the approval in May 2018 by the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran of the Law for the Protection of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and subsequent discussions regarding its implementation, and urges the authorities to work together with civil society to ensure that sufficient State funds are allocated for its implementation and monitoring;

5. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host a large number of Afghans, including approximately 1 million registered refugees, and to provide them with access to basic services, in particular health care and education for children;

6. *Further welcomes* the commitments made by the Iranian authorities with regard to improving the situation of women, and notes the ongoing discussions regarding the comprehensive bill on ensuring the protection of women against violence and the ratification of the amendment to the Nationality Law, which gives Iranian women married to men with foreign nationality the right to request Iranian citizenship for their children under the age of 18 years;

7. *Welcomes* the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with human rights treaty bodies, including through the submission of periodic reports, and notes in particular the engagement of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its participation in the universal periodic review;

8. *Also welcomes* the ongoing contact with and dialogue between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the

¹ Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

² Resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

³ [A/74/273](#).

⁴ [A/74/188](#).

⁵ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/74/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the invitations extended to other special procedures mandate holders;

9. *Further welcomes* the expressed readiness of the Iranian High Council for Human Rights and other Iranian officials to engage in bilateral dialogues on human rights, and calls upon them to increase such dialogues or resume those that have been paused;

10. *Expresses serious concern*, notwithstanding the previously noted reduction in the number of executions, notably for drug-related crimes, at the alarmingly high frequency of the imposition and carrying-out of the death penalty by the Islamic Republic of Iran, in violation of its international obligations, including executions undertaken against persons on the basis of forced confessions or for crimes that do not qualify as the most serious crimes, including crimes that are overly broad or vaguely defined, in violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,² expresses concern at the continuing disregard for internationally recognized safeguards, including executions undertaken without notification of the prisoner's family members or legal counsel, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to abolish, in law and in practice, public executions, which are contrary to the 2008 directive seeking to end this practice issued by the former head of the judiciary;

11. *Also expresses serious concern* at the continued imposition of the death penalty by the Islamic Republic of Iran against minors, and urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease the imposition of the death penalty against minors, including persons who at the time of their offence were under the age of 18, in violation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁶ and to commute the sentences for child offenders on death row;

12. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure, in law and in practice, that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, which may include sexual violence, and punishments that are grossly disproportionate to the nature of the offence, in conformity with amendments to the Penal Code, the constitutional guarantees of the Islamic Republic of Iran and international obligations and standards, including but not limited to the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules);⁷

13. *Urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease the widespread and systematic use of arbitrary arrests and detention, including the use of this practice to target dual and foreign nationals, to release those who have been arbitrarily detained and to uphold, in law and in practice, procedural guarantees to ensure fair trial standards, including timely access to legal representation of one's choice from the time of arrest through all stages of trial and all appeals, the right not to be subjected to torture, cruel and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and consideration of bail and other reasonable terms for release from custody pending trial, and calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure that it meets its obligations under article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations⁸ in relation to communication with and access to nationals of sending States who are in prison, custody or detention;

14. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to release persons detained for the exercise of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, including those who have been detained solely for taking part in peaceful protests, to consider rescinding unduly harsh sentences, including those involving the death penalty and long-term internal

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

⁷ Resolution 70/175, annex.

⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

exile, and to end reprisals against individuals, including for cooperating or attempting to cooperate with the United Nations human rights mechanisms;

15. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the poor conditions of prisons, to end the practice of deliberately denying prisoners access to adequate medical treatment, which creates a consequent risk of death, and to put an end to the continued and sustained house arrest of leading opposition figures from the 2009 presidential elections despite serious concerns about their health, as well as the pressure exerted upon their relatives and dependants, including through arrest, and calls upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to establish credible and independent prison oversight authorities to investigate complaints of abuse;

16. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the judicial and security branches, to create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment in which an independent, diverse and pluralistic civil society can operate free from hindrance and insecurity, and urges the Islamic Republic of Iran to end widespread and serious restrictions, in law and in practice, on the right to freedom of expression and opinion, including in digital contexts, and the rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly, and to end its harassment, intimidation and persecution of political opponents, human rights defenders, women's and minority rights defenders, labour and trade union activists, students' rights defenders, environmentalists, academics, film-makers, journalists, bloggers, social media users and social media page administrators, media workers, religious leaders, artists, lawyers, including human rights lawyers, and their families and persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities and their families, wherever it may occur;

17. *Strongly urges* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against women and girls, to take measures to ensure protection for women and girls against violence and their equal protection and access to justice, to address the concerning incidence of child, early and forced marriage, as recommended by the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to promote, support and enable women's participation in political and other decision-making processes, and, while recognizing the high enrolment of women in all levels of education in the Islamic Republic of Iran, to lift restrictions on women's equal access to all aspects of education and women's equal participation in the labour market and in all aspects of economic, cultural, social and political life, including participation in and attendance at sporting events;

18. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to release women human rights defenders imprisoned for exercising their rights, including the rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly and the right to freedom of expression and opinion, and to take appropriate, robust and practical steps to protect women human rights defenders and guarantee their full enjoyment of all their human rights;

19. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination and other human rights violations against persons belonging to ethnic, linguistic or other minorities, including but not limited to Arabs, Azeris, Balochis, Kurds and Turkmen, and their defenders;

20. *Expresses serious concern* about ongoing severe limitations and increasing restrictions on the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, restrictions on the establishment of places of worship, undue restrictions on burials carried out in accordance with religious tenets, attacks against places of worship and burial and other human rights violations, including but not limited to harassment, intimidation, persecution, arbitrary arrests and detention, and incitement to hatred that leads to violence against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, including Christians, Gonabadi Dervishes, Jews, Sufi Muslims, Sunni

Muslims, Yarsanis, Zoroastrians and members of the Baha'i faith and their defenders in the Islamic Republic of Iran, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to cease monitoring individuals on account of their religious identity, to release all religious practitioners imprisoned for their membership in or activities on behalf of a recognized or unrecognized minority religious group and to ensure that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, including the freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of their choice, in accordance with its obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

21. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to eliminate, in law and in practice, all forms of discrimination on the basis of thought, conscience, religion or belief, including economic restrictions, such as the closure or confiscation of businesses and properties, the cancellation of licences and the denial of employment in certain public and private sectors, including government or military positions and elected office, the denial of and restrictions on access to education, and other human rights violations against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities, and to end impunity for those who commit crimes against persons belonging to recognized and unrecognized religious minorities;

22. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to launch a comprehensive accountability process in response to all cases of serious human rights violations, including allegations of excessive use of force against peaceful protesters and cases of suspicious deaths in custody, as well as violations involving the Iranian judiciary and security agencies, and calls upon the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran to end impunity for such violations;

23. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to implement its obligations under those human rights treaties to which it is already a party, to withdraw any reservations that are imprecise or could be considered incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty, to act upon the concluding observations concerning the Islamic Republic of Iran adopted by the bodies of the international human rights treaties to which it is a party and to consider ratifying or acceding to the international human rights treaties to which it is not already a party;

24. *Calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to deepen its engagement with international human rights mechanisms by:

(a) Cooperating fully with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including by accepting the repeated requests made by the Special Rapporteur to visit the country in order to carry out the mandate;

(b) Increasing cooperation with other special mechanisms, including by facilitating long-standing requests for access to the country from thematic special procedures mandate holders, whose access to its territory has been restricted or denied, despite the standing invitation issued by the Islamic Republic of Iran, without imposing undue conditions upon those visits;

(c) Continuing to enhance its cooperation with the treaty bodies, including by submitting overdue reports under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination⁹ and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;²

(d) Implementing all accepted universal periodic review recommendations from its first cycle, in 2010, its second cycle, in 2014, and its third cycle, in 2019,

⁹ Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

with the full and genuine participation of independent civil society and other stakeholders in the implementation process;

(e) Building upon the engagement of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the universal periodic review process by continuing to explore cooperation on human rights and justice reform with the United Nations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

(f) Following through on its commitment to establish an independent national human rights institution, made in the context of both its first and its second universal periodic reviews by the Human Rights Council, with due regard for the recommendation of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

25. *Also calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to continue to translate the pledges made by the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran with respect to human rights concerns into concrete action that results in demonstrable improvements as soon as possible and to ensure that its national laws are consistent with its obligations under international human rights law and that they are implemented in accordance with its international obligations;

26. *Further calls upon* the Islamic Republic of Iran to address the substantive concerns highlighted in the reports of the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the specific calls to action found in previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and to respect fully its human rights obligations in law and in practice;

27. *Strongly encourages* the relevant thematic special procedures mandate holders to pay particular attention to, with a view to investigating and reporting on, the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation, and to submit an interim report to the Human Rights Council at its forty-third session;

29. *Decides* to continue its examination of the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

Draft resolution III

Situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ international human rights treaties and other relevant international instruments and declarations,

Recalling the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination,² the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment³ and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁴

Recalling also the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949⁵ and Additional Protocol I thereto, of 1977,⁶ as applicable, as well as relevant customary international law,

Confirming the primary responsibility of States to promote and protect human rights,

Reaffirming the responsibility of States to respect international law, including the principle that all States shall refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State and from acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations, recalling its resolution [2625 \(XXV\)](#) of 24 October 1970, in which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the principles contained therein,

Recalling its resolution [3314 \(XXIX\)](#) of 14 December 1974, entitled “Definition of aggression”,

Recalling also its resolution [68/262](#) of 27 March 2014 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine, in which it affirmed its commitment to the sovereignty, political independence, unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders and called upon all States, international organizations and specialized agencies not to recognize any alteration to the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol and to refrain from any action or dealing that might be interpreted as recognizing any such altered status,

Recalling further its resolutions [71/205](#) of 19 December 2016, [72/190](#) of 19 December 2017 and [73/263](#) of 22 December 2018 on the situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, its resolution [73/194](#) of 17 December 2018 on the problem of the militarization of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, as well as parts of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, and relevant decisions of international organizations, specialized agencies and bodies within the United Nations system,

¹ Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

⁴ See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

Gravely concerned that the provisions of those resolutions and relevant decisions of international organizations, specialized agencies and bodies within the United Nations system have not been implemented by the Russian Federation,

Condemning the ongoing temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine – the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (hereinafter “Crimea”) – by the Russian Federation, and reaffirming the non-recognition of its annexation,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution [3314 \(XXIX\)](#), states that no territorial acquisition or special advantage resulting from aggression is or shall be recognized as lawful,

Affirming that the seizure of Crimea by force is illegal and a violation of international law, and affirming also that those territories must be immediately returned,

Supporting the commitment by Ukraine to adhering to international law in its efforts to put an end to the Russian occupation of Crimea, and welcoming the commitments by Ukraine to protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all its citizens,

Reaffirming the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law,

Welcoming the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in Ukraine, of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, and of the human rights assessment mission of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in which they stated that violations and abuses of human rights continued to take place in Crimea and pointed to the sharp deterioration of the overall human rights situation,

Welcoming also the reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, submitted pursuant to resolutions [71/205](#)⁷ and [72/190](#),⁸ and the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution [73/263](#),⁹

Reaffirming its grave concern that the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine continues to be denied access to Crimea, despite its existing mandate, which covers the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders,

Condemning the imposition and retroactive application of the legal system of the Russian Federation, and its negative impact on the human rights situation in Crimea, the imposition of automatic Russian citizenship on protected persons in Crimea, which is contrary to international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions and customary international law, and the deportation and regressive effects on the enjoyment of human rights of those who have rejected that citizenship,

⁷ See [A/72/498](#).

⁸ See [A/73/404](#).

⁹ [A/74/276](#).

Gravely concerned by consistent reports that the Russian law enforcement system uses involuntary placement in a psychiatric institution as a form of harassment against and punishment of political opponents and activists,

Deeply concerned that, since 2014, torture has reportedly been used by the Russian authorities to extract false confessions for politically motivated prosecutions, including in the case of Oleg Sentsov, a Ukrainian film-maker, and expressing deep concern about the ongoing arbitrary detentions and arrests by the Russian Federation of Ukrainian citizens, including Emir-Usein Kuku and many others,

Deeply concerned also that the occupation continues to affect the enjoyment of social and economic rights by residents, including children, older persons and persons with disabilities,

Condemning the reported serious violations and abuses committed against residents of Crimea, in particular extrajudicial killings, abductions, enforced disappearances, politically motivated prosecutions, discrimination, harassment, intimidation, violence, including sexual violence, arbitrary detentions and arrests, torture and ill-treatment, in particular to extract confessions, and psychiatric internment, and their forcible transfer or deportation from Crimea to the Russian Federation, as well as reported abuses of other fundamental freedoms, including the freedoms of expression, religion or belief and association and the right to peaceful assembly,

Gravely concerned by the abovementioned policies and practices of the Russian Federation, which cause a continuing threat and make it impossible to reside in Crimea, and have caused the population to move out from the peninsula,

Recalling that individual or mass forcible transfers, as well as deportations of protected persons from occupied territory to the territory of the occupying Power, or to that of any other country, occupied or not, are prohibited under international humanitarian law, regardless of their motive,

Deeply concerned by consistent reports that the Russian Federation promotes policies and conducts practices aimed at changing the demographic structure in Crimea, and recalling in this respect that the occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies,

Reaffirming its serious concern at the decision of the so-called Supreme Court of Crimea of 26 April 2016 and the decision of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation of 29 September 2016 to declare the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People, the self-governing body of the Crimean Tatars, to be an extremist organization and to ban its activities,

Condemning the ongoing pressure exerted upon religious minority communities, including through frequent police raids, undue registration requirements that have affected legal status and property rights and threats against and persecution of those belonging to the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, the Protestant Church, mosques and Muslim religious schools, Greek Catholics, Roman Catholics and Jehovah's Witnesses, and condemning also the baseless prosecution of dozens of peaceful Muslims for allegedly belonging to Islamic organizations,

Condemning also the continuous widespread misuse of counter-terrorism and anti-extremism laws to suppress dissent,

Strongly condemning in this regard mass detentions on terrorism grounds and other forms of repressions against human rights defenders, including against activists of the Crimean Solidarity civic initiative, which documents abuses on the peninsula and provides humanitarian assistance to the families of victims of politically motivated prosecutions,

Recalling the order of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2017 on provisional measures in the case concerning the *Application of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*,¹⁰

Recalling also the prohibition under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the occupying Power to compel protected persons to serve in its armed or auxiliary forces, including through pressure or propaganda that is aimed at securing voluntary enlistment, and condemning the ongoing recruitment campaign in Crimea and criminal prosecutions of Crimean men for draft evasion,

Underlining the importance of the measures to develop transparent, accessible, non-discriminatory and expeditious procedures and regulations governing access to Crimea for human rights defenders, journalists, media workers and lawyers, as well as the possibility to appeal, in accordance with national legislation and in conformity with all applicable international law,

Condemning the blocking by the Russian Federation of Ukrainian websites and television channels and the seizure of Ukrainian transmission frequencies in Crimea,

Welcoming the support provided by Ukraine to media outlets and civil society organizations that have fled Crimea, which improves the ability of the media and civil society to work independently and without interference,

Welcoming also the continued efforts of the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe and other international and regional organizations to support Ukraine in promoting, protecting and ensuring human rights, and expressing further concern over the lack of safe and unfettered access by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms and human rights non-governmental organizations to Crimea,

Acknowledging the importance of the release by the Russian Federation and Ukraine of detained persons on 7 September 2019, and calling upon the Russian Federation to release all unlawfully detained Ukrainian citizens and to ensure their safe return to Ukraine,

1. *Deplores* the failure of the Russian Federation to comply with the repeated requests and demands of the General Assembly, as well as with the order of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2017 on provisional measures in the case concerning the *Application of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism and of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Ukraine v. Russian Federation)*;¹⁰

2. *Strongly condemns* the continuing and total disregard by the Russian Federation for its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law regarding its legal responsibility for the occupied territory, including the responsibility to respect Ukrainian law and the rights of all civilians;

3. *Condemns* all attempts by the Russian Federation to legitimize or normalize its attempted annexation of Crimea, including the automatic imposition of Russian citizenship, illegal election campaigns and change of the demographic structure of the population of Crimea;

4. *Also condemns* violations, abuses, measures and practices of discrimination against the residents of the temporarily occupied Crimea, including

¹⁰ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/72/4)*, chap. V, sect. A.

Crimean Tatars, as well as Ukrainians and persons belonging to other ethnic and religious groups, by the Russian occupation authorities;

5. *Further condemns* the unlawful imposition of laws, jurisdiction and administration in the occupied Crimea by the Russian Federation, and demands that the Russian Federation respect obligations under international law with regard to respecting the laws in force in Crimea prior to occupation;

6. *Urges* the Russian Federation:

(a) To uphold all of its obligations under applicable international law as an occupying Power;

(b) To fully and immediately comply with the order of the International Court of Justice of 19 April 2017;

(c) To take all measures necessary to bring an immediate end to all violations and abuses against residents of Crimea, in particular reported discriminatory measures and practices, arbitrary detentions and arrests, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, revoke all discriminatory legislation and hold accountable those responsible for those violations and abuses;

(d) To refrain from arresting or prosecuting Crimean residents for non-criminal acts committed or opinions expressed, including in social media comments or posts, before the occupation, and release all Crimean residents who have been arrested or imprisoned for such acts;

(e) To respect the laws in force in Ukraine, repeal laws imposed in Crimea by the Russian Federation that allow for forced evictions and the confiscation of private property in Crimea, in violation of applicable international law, and respect the property rights of all former owners affected by previous confiscations;

(f) To immediately release and allow the return to Ukraine, without preconditions, of Ukrainian citizens who were unlawfully detained and judged without regard for the requirements of international law, as well as those transferred or deported across internationally recognized borders from Crimea to the Russian Federation;

(g) To report the number of individuals transferred from Crimea to the Russian Federation to serve criminal sentences and take immediate actions in order to return such individuals to Crimea;

(h) To monitor and accommodate the medical needs of all Ukrainian citizens unlawfully detained for the exercise of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, including political prisoners, in Crimea and the Russian Federation and allow the monitoring of those detainees' state of health and conditions of detention by independent international monitors and physicians from reputable international health organizations, including the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and investigate effectively all deaths in detention;

(i) To uphold the rights, in accordance with international law and until their release, of Ukrainian prisoners and detainees in Crimea and in the Russian Federation, including those on hunger strike, and encourages it to respect the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules);¹¹

(j) To provide Ukrainian consular officials with information on Ukrainian citizens detained in the Russian Federation, ensure freedom of consular

¹¹ Resolution [70/175](#), annex.

communication with, and consular access to, detained Ukrainian citizens, in accordance with the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,¹² to which the Russian Federation is a party, and allow Ukrainian officials, including the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, to visit all Ukrainian citizens, including political prisoners in Crimea and the Russian Federation;

(k) To address the issue of impunity and ensure that those found to be responsible for violations and abuses are held accountable before an independent judiciary;

(l) To create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for journalists and media workers, human rights defenders and defence lawyers to perform their work independently and without undue interference in Crimea;

(m) To restore enjoyment of the rights of all individuals, without any discrimination based on origin or religion or belief, revoke the decisions that banned cultural and religious institutions, non-governmental organizations, human rights organizations and media outlets and restore enjoyment of the rights of individuals belonging to ethnic communities in Crimea, in particular Ukrainians and Crimean Tatars, including that to engage in cultural gatherings;

(n) To ensure that the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of association can be exercised by all Crimean residents in any form, including single-person pickets, without any restrictions other than those permissible under international law, including international human rights law, and without discrimination on any grounds;

(o) To refrain from criminalizing the right to freedom of opinion and expression and the right to peaceful assembly and quash all penalties imposed on Crimean residents for expressing dissenting views, including regarding the status of Crimea;

(p) To ensure the availability of education in the Ukrainian and Crimean Tatar languages;

(q) To revoke immediately the decision declaring the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People an extremist organization and banning its activities, repeal the decision banning leaders of the Mejlis from entering Crimea and refrain from maintaining or imposing limitations on the ability of the Crimean Tatar community to conserve its representative institutions;

(r) To end the practice of compelling Crimean residents to serve in the armed or auxiliary forces of the Russian Federation, including through pressure or propaganda, and in particular ensure that Crimean residents are not compelled to participate in military operations of the Russian Federation;

(s) To end the practices of deporting Ukrainian citizens from Crimea for not taking Russian citizenship and of discriminating against Crimean residents for not possessing identity documents issued by the Russian Federation, stop transferring its own civilian population to Crimea and end the practice of encouraging such transfers;

(t) To cooperate fully and immediately with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including its Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, which must have safe, secure and unhindered access to the entire territory of Ukraine, including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, and the Council of Europe on the situation of human rights in Crimea;

¹² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

7. *Calls upon* the Russian Federation to address the substantive concerns and all recommendations highlighted in the reports of the Secretary-General⁹ and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the temporarily occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine,^{7,8} as well as previous relevant recommendations from 27 reports on the situation of human rights in Ukraine by the Office of the High Commissioner based on the work of the United Nations human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine established to prevent further deterioration of human rights in Crimea;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek ways and means, including through consultations with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and relevant regional organizations, to ensure safe and unfettered access to Crimea by established regional and international human rights monitoring mechanisms, in particular the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine, to enable them to carry out their mandate;

9. *Urges* the Russian Federation to ensure the proper and unimpeded access of international human rights monitoring missions and human rights non-governmental organizations to Crimea, including all places where persons may be deprived of their liberty, recognizing that the international presence and monitoring of compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law in Crimea are of paramount importance in preventing further deterioration of the situation;

10. *Supports* the efforts of Ukraine to maintain economic, financial, political, social, informational, cultural and other ties with its citizens in the occupied Crimea in order to facilitate their access to democratic processes, economic opportunities and objective information;

11. *Calls upon* all international organizations and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, when referring to Crimea in their official documents, communications and publications, including with regard to statistical data of the Russian Federation, to refer to “the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, Ukraine, temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation”, and encourages all States and other international organizations to do the same;

12. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the work of the United Nations to ensure respect for international human rights law and international humanitarian law in Crimea;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to continue advocacy for the respect of human rights, including by condemning human rights violations and abuses committed in Crimea at bilateral and multilateral forums;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all steps necessary to ensure the full and effective coordination of all United Nations bodies with regard to the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide his good offices and pursue his discussions relating to Crimea, involving all relevant stakeholders and including the concerns addressed in the present resolution;

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including options and recommendations to improve its implementation, and to submit an interim report to the Human Rights Council at its forty-fourth session;

17. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the matter at its seventy-fifth session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

Draft resolution IV Situation of human rights of Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ the International Covenants on Human Rights² and other relevant international law and human rights law instruments,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the most recent of which being resolutions 73/264 of 22 December 2018 and 72/248 of 24 December 2017, and recalling the resolutions and decisions of the Human Rights Council, the most recent of which being resolutions 42/3 of 26 September 2019,³ 39/2 of 27 September 2018,⁴ 37/32 of 23 March 2018⁵ and S-27/1 of 5 December 2017,⁶ and the presidential statement issued by the Security Council on 6 November 2017,⁷ as well as Security Council resolution 2467 (2019) of 23 April 2019,

Welcoming the work and the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, while deeply regretting the decision of the Government of Myanmar to discontinue cooperation with the Special Rapporteur and to deny her access to the country since January 2018,

Welcoming also the work of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar, and encouraging her further engagement and dialogue with the Government of Myanmar and other relevant stakeholders and affected populations,

Welcoming further the first report to the General Assembly of the ongoing independent mechanism established by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 39/2,⁸ and its operationalization, as well as the appointment of its head,

Welcoming the work of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar, including its final report⁹ and all its other reports, including the reports on the economic interests of the Myanmar military and on sexual and gender-based violence in Myanmar and the gendered impact of its ethnic conflicts, and furthermore deeply regretting that the Government of Myanmar did not cooperate with the fact-finding mission,

Recognizing the complementary and mutually reinforcing work of the various United Nations mandate holders and mechanisms working on Myanmar to improve the situation of human rights in Myanmar,

Noting the importance of the role of regional organizations in efforts to achieve pacific settlement of local disputes, as stipulated in Chapter VIII of the Charter, while noting that such efforts do not preclude action under Chapter VI of the Charter,

Acknowledging the efforts of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, alongside relevant international efforts, aimed at bringing peace and stability to

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Resolution 2200 A (XXI).

³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fourth Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/74/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

⁴ *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/73/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

⁵ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53 (A/73/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

⁶ *Ibid.*, chap. III.

⁷ S/PRST/2017/22.

⁸ See A/74/278.

⁹ A/HRC/42/50.

Rakhine State, including through the appointment by the Organization of a new special envoy to Myanmar,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁰

Condemning all violations and abuses of human rights in Myanmar, including against Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States, and expressing deep concern at the reports of ongoing human rights violations, as also noted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in her oral update on 10 July 2019, as well as at the ongoing non-cooperation of the Government of Myanmar and the denial of access to United Nations mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and the Independent Mechanism,

Continuing to underline the need for the security and armed forces of Myanmar to cease all actions that run counter to the protection of all persons within the country, including those belonging to the Rohingya community, by respecting international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and ending the violence, including sexual violence, and calling for urgent steps to ensure justice in respect of all human rights violations and violations of international humanitarian law so that those displaced by violence are able to voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their places of origin or to a place of their choice in a sustainable manner,

Calling for an immediate cessation of fighting and hostilities, of targeting of civilians and of all violations and abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law in northern Myanmar, and recognizing the need for continued de-escalation and an enduring ceasefire, best achieved by dialogue between all parties, as a necessary means of improving the human rights situation,

Reiterating its grave concern that, in spite of the fact that Rohingya Muslims lived in Myanmar for generations prior to the independence of Myanmar, they were made stateless by the enactment of the 1982 Citizenship Law and were eventually disenfranchised, in 2015, from the electoral process,

Reaffirming that the denial of citizenship status and related rights to Rohingya Muslims and others, including voting rights, is a serious human rights concern,

Reiterating its deep distress at reports that unarmed individuals in Rakhine State have been and continue to be subjected to the excessive use of force and violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the military and security and armed forces, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary killings, systematic rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearance and government seizure of Rohingya lands from which Rohingya Muslims were evicted and their homes destroyed, and remaining concerned by the previous large-scale destruction of homes and systematic evictions in northern Rakhine State, including the use of arson and violence, as well as the unlawful use of force by non-State actors,

Recalling the responsibility of States to comply with their relevant obligations, to prosecute those responsible for violations of international law, including international humanitarian law, international human rights law, international criminal law and international refugee law, as well as abuses of human rights, and to provide an effective remedy to any person whose rights have been violated, with a view to ending impunity,

¹⁰ [A/74/311](#).

Reiterating the urgent need to ensure that all those responsible for crimes related to violations and abuses of international law throughout Myanmar, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international criminal law, are held to account through credible and independent national, regional or international justice mechanisms, while recalling the authority of the Security Council in this regard,

Recalling the establishment of an independent commission of inquiry by the Government of Myanmar on 30 July 2018 with a view to ensuring accountability for the human rights violations and abuses committed in Rakhine State, reiterating that the commission should conduct its work with independence, impartiality, transparency and objectivity, and encouraging the commission to issue an initial report and to cooperate with all relevant United Nations mandate holders,

Recalling also some steps taken by the Government of Myanmar to create the conditions necessary for refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to return to their places of origin or to a place of their choice voluntarily, in safety and dignity, but regretting, however, that the situation has not improved in Rakhine State to create the conditions necessary for refugees and other forcibly displaced persons to return to their places of origin voluntarily, safely and with dignity,

Expressing concern that in northern Rakhine State, the implementation of policies under the guise of economic development and reconstruction by the Government of Myanmar and the heavy militarization of the area have resulted in the alteration of the demographic structure, which further prevents the members of the displaced Rohingya Muslim population from returning to Rakhine State,

Re-emphasizing the right of all refugees and the importance of internally displaced persons being able to return home in safety and dignity and in a voluntary and sustainable manner,

Noting the extension for one year of the memorandum of understanding between Myanmar and the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on assistance in the repatriation process of displaced persons from Rakhine State, and calling upon Myanmar to grant United Nations agencies unfettered access to northern Rakhine State so that they can carry out this assistance,

Expressing deep concern at the continued armed conflict and violence and abuses in a number of areas in Myanmar, affecting tens of thousands of people, most notably in Rakhine State, causing their forced displacement, and recognizing the need for continued de-escalation and an enduring ceasefire as a necessary means of improving the human rights situation,

Alarmed by the continued influx to Bangladesh over the last four decades of 1.1 million Rohingya Muslims, including the 744,000 who arrived since 25 August 2017 in the aftermath of atrocities committed by the security and armed forces of Myanmar,

Expressing deep concern over the virulent and rapid spread of false news, hate speech and inflammatory rhetoric, in particular through social media, tolerated by the authorities of Myanmar,

Noting the steps taken by the Government of Myanmar towards establishing a national strategy for the sustainable closure of camps for internally displaced persons in Myanmar,

Alarmed by the findings of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar of evidence of gross human rights violations and abuses suffered by Rohingya Muslims and other minorities, perpetrated by the security and armed forces

of Myanmar, which, according to the fact-finding mission, undoubtedly amount to the gravest crimes under international law,

Underlining the urgency of the call by the Secretary-General for increased efforts to implement the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, to address the root causes of the crisis, including those on access to citizenship for the Rohingya, freedom of movement, the elimination of systematic segregation and all forms of discrimination, and inclusive and equal access to health services and education, and birth registration, in full consultation with all ethnic and minority groups and persons in vulnerable situations, including on matters of citizenship for Rohingya Muslims,

Welcoming the commitment of the Secretary-General to implementing the recommendations made by the independent inquiry into the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar from 2010 to 2018,

Reiterating its urgent call upon the Government of Myanmar to sustain the democratic transition of Myanmar by bringing all national institutions, including the military, under the democratically elected civilian Government,

Welcoming the involvement of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in addressing the situation in Rakhine State, including through carrying out humanitarian assessments in northern Rakhine State through its Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management, and recognizing the need for close engagement with the Rohingya refugee community, while encouraging close cooperation with all relevant United Nations agencies and international partners and to address the root causes of the conflict, so that affected communities can rebuild their lives there,

1. *Expresses grave concern* at continuing reports of serious human rights violations and abuses as well as violations of international humanitarian law in Myanmar against Rohingya Muslims and other minorities in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States, including those involving arbitrary arrests, deaths in detention, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, forced labour, deprivation of economic and social rights, the forced displacement of more than a million Rohingya Muslims to Bangladesh, rape, sexual slavery and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence against women and children, as well as restrictions on exercising the rights to freedom of religion or belief, expression and peaceful assembly;

2. *Strongly condemns* all violations and abuses of human rights in Myanmar, and calls upon Myanmar, in particular its security and armed forces, to end immediately all violence and all violations of international law in Myanmar, to ensure the protection of the human rights of all persons in Myanmar, including of Rohingya Muslims and persons belonging to other minorities, and to take all measures necessary to provide justice to victims, to ensure full accountability and to end impunity for all violations and abuses of human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, starting with a full, transparent and independent investigation into reports of all these violations;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of conducting international, independent, fair and transparent investigations into the gross human rights violations in Myanmar, including sexual and gender-based violence against women and children, and of holding accountable all those responsible for brutal acts and crimes against all persons, including the Rohingya Muslims, in order to deliver justice to victims using all legal instruments and domestic, regional and international judicial mechanisms;

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the increasing restrictions on humanitarian access, in particular in Rakhine State, and urges the Government of Myanmar to

cooperate fully with and to grant full, unrestricted and unmonitored access to all United Nations mandate holders and human rights mechanisms, including the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the Independent Mechanism and relevant United Nations agencies, and international and regional human rights bodies to independently monitor the situation of human rights, and to ensure that individuals can cooperate without hindrance with these mechanisms and without fear of reprisal, intimidation or attack, and expresses deep concern that international access to affected areas of northern Rakhine State remains severely restricted for the international community, including for United Nations agencies, humanitarian actors and international media;

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations to ensure that the Independent Mechanism is afforded the flexibility that it needs in terms of staffing, location and operational freedom so it can deliver as effectively as possible on its mandate;

6. *Urges* the Independent Mechanism to swiftly advance its work and to ensure the effective use of evidence of the most serious international crimes and violations of international law collected by the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar;

7. *Urges* the independent commission of inquiry of Myanmar to deliver tangible results on its work carried out so far with independence, impartiality, transparency and objectivity in order to promote accountability, and to deliver a credible report that acknowledges the human rights violations and mass atrocities committed in Rakhine State and that can lay the groundwork for confidence-building, and encourages the commission to cooperate with all relevant United Nations mandate holders;

8. *Reiterates* the urgent call upon the Government of Myanmar:

(a) To manifest clear political will supported by concrete actions for the safe, dignified, voluntary and sustainable return and reintegration of Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar;

(b) To take the necessary measures to address the spread of discrimination and prejudice and to combat the incitement of hatred against Rohingya Muslims and persons belonging to other minorities, and to publicly condemn such acts and combat hate speech, while fully respecting international human rights law, as well as to promote interfaith dialogue in cooperation with the international community and encourage political and religious leaders in the country to work towards reconciliation among communities and national unity through dialogue;

(c) To expedite efforts to eliminate statelessness and the systematic and institutionalized discrimination against members of ethnic and religious minorities, in particular relating to Rohingya Muslims, by, inter alia, reviewing the 1982 Citizenship Law, which has led to deprivation of human rights, by ensuring equal access to full citizenship through a transparent, voluntary and accessible procedure and to all civil and political rights, by allowing for self-identification, by amending or repealing all discriminatory legislation and policies, including discriminatory provisions of the set of “protection of race and religion laws” enacted in 2015 covering religious conversion, interfaith marriage, monogamy and population control, and by lifting all local orders restricting rights to freedom of movement and access to civil registration, health and education services and livelihoods;

(d) To dismantle the camps for internally displaced persons in Rakhine State with a clear timeline and without further delay, ensuring that the return and relocation of internally displaced persons is carried out in accordance with international standards and best practices, in cooperation with the United Nations and the

international community, including as set forth in the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;¹¹

(e) To ensure full protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons in Myanmar, including Rohingya Muslims and persons belonging to other minorities, in an equal, non-discriminatory and dignified manner, in order to prevent further instability and insecurity, alleviate suffering, address the root causes of the crisis and forge a viable, lasting and durable solution;

(f) To build trust among Rohingya Muslims in camps in Bangladesh, through confidence-building measures, including direct communication between the Rohingya representatives and the Myanmar authorities;

(g) To create the conditions necessary for the safe, voluntary, dignified and sustainable return of all refugees, including Rohingya Muslim refugees, particularly in view of the fact that Rohingya Muslims refused to return to Myanmar on two prior occasions that had been bilaterally set up between Bangladesh and Myanmar for repatriation to commence, owing to the failure of the Government of Myanmar to create such conditions in Rakhine State;

(h) To ensure the conduct of credible, inclusive and transparent general elections in 2020;

(i) To fulfil its human rights obligations and commitments to protect the right to freedom of expression, including online, and the rights to freedom of association and peaceful assembly, to create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for civil society and independent media;

(j) To fully implement all recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State to address the root causes of the crisis;

9. *Underscores* the importance of providing protection and assistance, including non-discriminatory access to services such as medical and psychosocial care, specifically tailored to women and girls, especially those who are victims of sexual and gender-based violence and human trafficking;

10. *Reiterates its deep concern* at the continued plight of Rohingya Muslim refugees and forcibly displaced persons living in Bangladesh and in other countries, and appreciates the commitment by the Government of Bangladesh to provide temporary shelter, humanitarian assistance and protection to them;

11. *Notes* the establishment of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for the Prevention of the Six Grave Violations during Armed Conflict on 7 January 2019 by the Government of Myanmar, and of the agreement by Parliament to the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,¹² invites the Government to continue the implementation of the action plan to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children by government forces, and calls upon the Government to engage with the United Nations in developing, adopting and implementing without undue delay comprehensive action plans addressing killing, maiming, rape and other sexual violence for which the Tatmadaw, including the integrated border forces, are listed in the annual report of the Secretary General;

12. *Welcomes* the recent extension for one year of the memorandum of understanding between the Government of Myanmar, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to associate them to the implementation of bilateral arrangements with

¹¹ E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

¹² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2173, No. 27531.

Bangladesh on the return of displaced persons from Rakhine State, and emphasizes the need for the Government of Myanmar to continue to cooperate fully with the Government of Bangladesh and with the United Nations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and in consultation with the populations concerned to enable the safe, voluntary, dignified, sustainable and well-informed return of all refugees and forcibly displaced persons and internally displaced persons to their places of origin in Myanmar, and to give returnees freedom of movement and unimpeded access to livelihoods, social services, including health services, education and shelter, and to compensate them for all losses;

13. *Expresses grave concern* at the potential retraumatization of survivors of human rights violations and abuses, particularly child survivors and sexual violence survivors, and calls upon all actors engaging in documentation to follow the “do-no-harm” principle for evidence-gathering in order to respect the dignity of survivors and to avoid retraumatization;

14. *Encourages* Myanmar to continue to work with Bangladesh, in line with the bilateral instruments on repatriation signed by Bangladesh and Myanmar, in order to expedite the creation of a conducive environment for the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return of the forcibly displaced Rohingya in Bangladesh, with the full support and meaningful involvement of the international community, including the United Nations and its funds, programmes and agencies, and stresses the importance of meaningfully engaging with civil society;

15. *Encourages* the international community to (a) assist Bangladesh in providing humanitarian assistance to Rohingya refugees and forcibly displaced persons until such time as they are voluntarily repatriated to Myanmar in safety and dignity; and (b) assist Myanmar in the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected persons of all communities who have been internally displaced, including those in camps for internally displaced persons within Rakhine State;

16. *Urges* the international community to support the 2019 joint response plan for the Rohingya humanitarian crisis to ensure adequate resources for addressing the humanitarian crisis;

17. *Recognizes with appreciation* the assistance and support of the international community, including regional organizations, in particular the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the countries neighbouring Myanmar, and encourages support for the Government of Myanmar in the fulfilment of its international human rights obligations and commitments, the implementation of its democratic transition process, inclusive socioeconomic development and sustainable peace, as well as its national reconciliation process involving all relevant stakeholders;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions relating to Myanmar, involving all relevant stakeholders, and to offer assistance to the Government of Myanmar;

(b) To extend the appointment of the Special Envoy on Myanmar and submit the report of the Special Envoy covering all relevant issues addressed in the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session;

(c) To provide all assistance necessary to enable the Special Envoy on Myanmar to effectively discharge her mandate and to report to Member States every six months, or as warranted by the situation on the ground;

(d) To identify ways in which the existing mandates can more effectively deliver in their respective areas of responsibility concerning Myanmar and can complement each other's work through enhanced coordination;

(e) To call the continued attention of the Security Council to the situation in Myanmar with concrete recommendations for action towards resolving the humanitarian crisis, promoting the safe, dignified, voluntary and sustainable return of Rohingya refugees and forcibly displaced persons and ensuring accountability for those responsible for mass atrocities and human rights violations and abuses;

(f) To fully implement the recommendations contained in the report of the independent inquiry into the involvement of the United Nations in Myanmar from 2010 to 2018;

19. *Requests* that the Special Envoy continue to participate by way of interactive dialogue in the seventy-fifth session of the General Assembly;

20. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter, *inter alia*, on the basis of the reports of the Secretary-General, the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar, the Independent Mechanism, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Myanmar.

Draft resolution V

Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenants on Human Rights,²

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and to the principles of the Charter, and demanding that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population and to respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of all persons within its jurisdiction,

Recalling its resolutions 66/176 of 19 December 2011, 66/253 A of 16 February 2012, 66/253 B of 3 August 2012, 67/183 of 20 December 2012, 67/262 of 15 May 2013, 68/182 of 18 December 2013, 69/189 of 18 December 2014, 70/234 of 23 December 2015, 71/130 of 9 December 2016, 71/203 of 19 December 2016, 71/248 of 21 December 2016 and 73/182 of 17 December 2018, Human Rights Council resolutions S-16/1 of 29 April 2011,³ S-17/1 of 23 August 2011,³ S-18/1 of 2 December 2011,⁴ 19/1 of 1 March 2012,⁵ 19/22 of 23 March 2012,⁵ S-19/1 of 1 June 2012,⁶ 20/22 of 6 July 2012,⁷ 21/26 of 28 September 2012,⁸ 22/24 of 22 March 2013,⁹ 23/1 of 29 May 2013,¹⁰ 23/26 of 14 June 2013,¹⁰ 24/22 of 27 September 2013,¹¹ 25/23 of 28 March 2014,¹² 26/23 of 27 June 2014,¹³ 27/16 of 25 September 2014,¹⁴ 28/20 of 27 March 2015,¹⁵ 29/16 of 2 July 2015,¹⁶ 30/10 of 1 October 2015,¹⁷ 31/17 of 23 March 2016,¹⁸ 32/25 of 1 July 2016,¹⁹ 33/23 of 30 September 2016,²⁰ S-25/1 of 21 October 2016,²¹ 34/26 of 24 March 2017,²² 35/26 of 23 June 2017,²³ 36/20 of 29 September 2017²⁴ and 39/15 of 28 September 2018,²⁵ Security Council resolutions

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/66/53)*, chap. I.

⁴ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.2 and A/66/53/Add.2/Corr.1), chap. II.

⁵ *Ibid.*, *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and A/67/53/Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

⁶ *Ibid.*, chap. V.

⁷ *Ibid.*, chap. IV, sect. A.

⁸ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/67/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

⁹ *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/68/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

¹² *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

¹³ *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1, A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.1 and A/69/53/Add.1/Corr.2), chap. IV, sect. A.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. II.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/70/53/Add.1)*, chap. II.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, *Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/71/53)*, chap. II.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, chap. IV, sect. A.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.1 and A/71/53/Add.1/Corr.1), chap. II.

²¹ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53B* and corrigendum (A/71/53/Add.2 and A/71/53/Add.2/Corr.1), chap. II.

²² *Ibid.*, *Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/72/53)*, chap. II.

²³ *Ibid.*, chap. V, sect. A.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A (A/72/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, *Seventy-third Session, Supplement No. 53A (A/73/53/Add.1)*, chap. III.

1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 2042 (2012) of 14 April 2012, 2043 (2012) of 21 April 2012, 2118 (2013) of 27 September 2013, 2139 (2014) of 22 February 2014, 2165 (2014) of 14 July 2014, 2170 (2014) of 15 August 2014, 2178 (2014) of 24 September 2014, 2191 (2014) of 17 December 2014, 2209 (2015) of 6 March 2015, 2235 (2015) of 7 August 2015, 2254 (2015) of 18 December 2015, 2258 (2015) of 22 December 2015, 2268 (2016) of 26 February 2016, 2286 (2016) of 3 May 2016, 2314 (2016) of 31 October 2016, 2319 (2016) of 17 November 2016, 2328 (2016) of 19 December 2016, 2332 (2016) of 21 December 2016, 2336 (2016) of 31 December 2016, 2393 (2017) of 19 December 2017, 2401 (2018) of 24 February 2018 and 2449 (2018) of 13 December 2018 and the statements by the President of the Security Council of 3 August 2011,²⁶ 2 October 2013,²⁷ 17 August 2015²⁸ and 8 October 2019,²⁹

Strongly condemning the grave human rights situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, the indiscriminate killing and deliberate targeting of civilians, including humanitarian workers, as such, including those involving the continued indiscriminate use of heavy weapons and aerial bombardments, which has caused more than 500,000 fatalities, including the killing of more than 17,000 children, the continued widespread and systematic gross violations, as well as abuses, of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including by the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare and the use of chemical weapons, including chlorine gas, sarin and sulfur mustard, which are prohibited under international law, and acts of violence that foment sectarian tensions by the Syrian regime against the Syrian population,

Reiterating that the only sustainable solution to the current crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic is through an inclusive and Syrian-led political process, under the auspices of the United Nations, that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people, and the establishment of a constitutional committee that would prepare the work for free and fair elections and political transition in line with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), with a view to establishing credible, inclusive and non-sectarian governance, with the full, equal and meaningful participation of women, welcoming the establishment of the Constitutional Committee, reaffirming in this regard the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, stressing the importance of their full participation and involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, and recognizing the work carried out by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria to that end,

Welcoming the efforts of the Special Envoy in establishing the Constitutional Committee to advance United Nations efforts to achieve a sustainable political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic in line with Security Council resolution 2254 (2015), and recalling that pursuant to resolution 2254 (2015) a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic also comprises free and fair elections, under the supervision of the United Nations, to the satisfaction of the governance and to the highest international standards of transparency and

²⁶ S/PRST/2011/16; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2011–31 July 2012 (S/INF/67)*.

²⁷ S/PRST/2013/15; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2013–31 July 2014 (S/INF/69)*.

²⁸ S/PRST/2015/15; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2015–31 December 2016 (S/INF/71)*.

²⁹ S/PRST/2019/12.

accountability, with all Syrians, including displaced persons and refugees, eligible to participate, as well as the establishment of a neutral and safe environment,

Reconfirming its endorsement of the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012,³⁰ endorsing the joint statement on the outcome of the multilateral talks on Syria held in Vienna of 30 October 2015 and the statement of the International Syria Support Group of 14 November 2015 (the Vienna statements) in pursuit of the full implementation of the Geneva communiqué, facilitated by the Special Envoy, as the basis for a Syrian-led and Syrian-owned political transition in order to end the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and stressing that the Syrian people will decide the future of the Syrian Arab Republic,

Noting with deep concern the culture of impunity for the most serious violations of international law and violations and abuses of human rights law committed during the present conflict, which has provided a fertile ground for further violations and abuses,

Emphasizing the importance of accountability for the most serious crimes committed during the conflict for ensuring sustainable peace,

Recalling that, amid expressions of popular discontent over restrictions on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic and social rights, civilian protests erupted in Dar'a in March 2011, and noting that the violent oppression of civilian protests by the Syrian regime, which later escalated to the direct shelling of civilians, fuelled the escalation of armed violence and violent extremist groups and terrorist groups,

Recalling also all relevant resolutions on the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and the protection of United Nations personnel, including its resolution [73/137](#) of 14 December 2018, as well as Security Council resolutions on the protection of humanitarian personnel, including resolution [2175 \(2014\)](#) of 29 August 2014, the relevant statements by the President of the Security Council referring to the specific obligations under international humanitarian law to respect and protect, in situations of armed conflict, medical personnel and humanitarian workers who participate exclusively in medical duties, their means of transport, equipment, hospitals and facilities, and to ensure that the wounded and sick receive, to the maximum extent practicable and with the least possible delay, the medical care required, while also recalling that, under international law, deliberate attacks against hospitals and places where the sick and wounded are collected, provided that they are not targets, and attacks on buildings, materials, medical units, means of transport and individuals using the distinctive emblems of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949³¹ in accordance with international law relate to war crimes, and recalling the applicable rules of international humanitarian law whereby no one should be punished for carrying out medical activities consistent with medical ethics,

Expressing grave concern at the indiscriminate use of force by the Syrian regime against civilians, which has caused immense human suffering and fomented the spread of extremism and extremist groups and which demonstrates the continuing failure of the Syrian regime to protect the population and implement the relevant resolutions and decisions of United Nations bodies and has created a safe haven and operating environment for crimes against humanity,

Expressing grave concern also at the remaining presence of extremism and violent extremist groups, terrorists and terrorist groups, and strongly condemning all violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic by any party to the conflict, in particular

³⁰ Security Council resolution [2118 \(2013\)](#), annex II.

³¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), the Nusrah Front, Al Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups, militias fighting on behalf of the regime, and other violent extremist groups,

Noting with serious concern the observation of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic that non-State armed groups still resort to the use of force against civilians,

Reaffirming its condemnation in the strongest possible terms of the use of chemical weapons by anyone under any circumstances, emphasizing that any use of chemical weapons anywhere, at any time, by anyone, under any circumstances is unacceptable and is and would be a violation of international law, and expressing its strong conviction that those individuals responsible for the use of chemical weapons must and should be held accountable,

Condemning in the strongest possible terms the fact that chemical weapons have been used since 2012 in the Syrian Arab Republic, including as reported by the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism in its reports of 2016 and 2017,³² concluding that the Syrian Arab Armed Forces were responsible for the attacks which released toxic substances in Talmenes in 2014 and in Sarmin and Qmenas in 2015, that ISIL (also known as Da'esh) used sulfur mustard in Marea in 2015 and in Umm Hawsh in 2016 and that the Syrian Arab Republic was responsible for the release of sarin at Khan Shaykhun in 2017, and accordingly noting with great concern the reports of the fact-finding mission of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons regarding incidents in Ltamenah³³ and Saraqib,³⁴ as well as the final report regarding the incident involving alleged use of toxic chemicals as a weapon in Duma,³⁵ which concluded that there were reasonable grounds to believe that the use of a toxic chemical as a weapon had taken place, and demanding that the perpetrators immediately desist from any further use of chemical weapons,

Expressing support for the work carried out by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic, welcoming its reports, strongly condemning the lack of cooperation by the Syrian regime with the Commission of Inquiry, reiterating its decision to transmit the reports of the Commission of Inquiry to the Security Council, expressing its appreciation to the Commission of Inquiry for its briefings to members of the Security Council, and requesting that the Commission of Inquiry continue to brief the General Assembly and members of the Security Council,

Welcoming the reports for 2018 and 2019 of the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011³⁶ and their consideration by the General Assembly, noting with serious concern the observation of the Commission of Inquiry that, since March 2011, the Syrian regime has conducted widespread attacks against the civilian population as a matter of policy, including targeted attacks on protected persons and objects, including medical facilities, personnel and transport and blocked humanitarian convoys, as well as enforced disappearances, torture in detention, summary executions and other violations and abuses, underscoring the need for those allegations to be examined and evidence to be collected and made available for future accountability efforts, and recalling the United Nations decision and efforts to

³² See [S/2016/738/Rev.1](#), [S/2016/888](#) and [S/2017/904](#).

³³ See [S/2017/931](#), annex, and [S/2018/620](#), annex.

³⁴ See [S/2018/478](#), annex.

³⁵ See [S/2019/208](#), annex.

³⁶ [A/73/295](#), [A/73/741](#) and [A/74/741](#).

formally establish the board of inquiry tasked with probing attacks that hit deconflicted civilian sites in the north-west of the Syrian Arab Republic,

Strongly condemning the reported killing of detainees in Syrian military intelligence facilities and the widespread practice of enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and the use of sexual and gender-based violence and torture in detention centres referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry, including, but not limited to, Branch 215, Branch 227, Branch 235, Branch 251, the Air Force Intelligence Investigation Branch at Mazzah military airport and Saydnaya prison, including the reported practice of mass hangings by the regime, as well as the reported killing of detainees at military hospitals, including Tishrin and Harasta hospitals,

Recalling the statements made by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that crimes against humanity and war crimes are likely to have been committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, noting the repeated encouragement by the High Commissioner for the Security Council to refer the situation to the International Criminal Court, and regretting that a draft resolution³⁷ was not adopted notwithstanding broad support from Member States,

Calling for the immediate repeal of Law No. 10/2018, concerned about the Syrian regime's infringement on the housing, land and property of Syrians, particularly through the dispossession of displaced Syrians' land and property in the national legislation and similar measures, which would have a significant detrimental impact on the rights of Syrians displaced by the conflict to claim their property and to return to their homes in a safe, voluntary and dignified manner when the situation on the ground allows it,

Expressing concern that the implementation of Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2254 (2015), 2258 (2015), 2268 (2016), 2286 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018) and 2449 (2018) remains largely unfulfilled, and noting the urgent need to strengthen efforts to address the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including through protection of civilians and full, immediate, unimpeded and sustained humanitarian access,

Recalling its commitment to Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014), and 2253 (2015) of 17 December 2015,

Alarmed that more than 5.6 million refugees, including more than 3.8 million women and children, have been forced to flee the Syrian Arab Republic and that 13 million people in the Syrian Arab Republic, of whom 6.2 million are internally displaced, require urgent humanitarian assistance, which has resulted in an influx of Syrian refugees into neighbouring countries, other countries in the region and beyond, and alarmed at the risk the situation presents to regional and international stability,

Expressing its profound indignation at the death of more than 17,000 children and the many more injured since the beginning of the peaceful protests in March 2011, and at all grave violations and abuses committed against children in contravention of applicable international law, such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, sexual violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, kidnapping and abductions, attacks on schools and hospitals, and denial of humanitarian access, as well as their arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and ill-treatment and their use as human shields, and noting the ongoing work of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic,

Recalling with serious concern the findings of the Commission of Inquiry in its report entitled "Out of sight, out of mind: deaths in detention in the Syrian Arab

³⁷ S/2014/348.

Republic”, noting in this regard the issuing of death notifications of detained individuals by the Syrian regime, which provides further indication of systematic violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and urging the regime to provide families with the remains of their relatives whose fate has been disclosed, including those who have been summarily executed, to take all appropriate measures immediately to protect the lives and rights of all persons currently detained or unaccounted for, and to clarify the fate of those who remain missing or are still in custody in accordance with Security Council resolution [2474 \(2019\)](#) of 11 June 2019,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the significant efforts that have been made by neighbouring countries and other countries in the region to accommodate Syrians, while acknowledging the increasing financial, socioeconomic and political impact of the presence of large-scale refugee and displaced populations in those countries,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations and the League of Arab States and all diplomatic efforts to achieve a political solution to the Syrian crisis based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012³⁰ and consistent with Security Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#),

Expressing full support for the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, with a view to the protection of the civilian population and the full implementation of the Syrian political process that establishes credible, inclusive and non-sectarian governance in accordance with the final communiqué and consistent with Security Council resolutions [2254 \(2015\)](#) and [2258 \(2015\)](#), urging Syrian parties to engage constructively with the Constitutional Committee in order to pave the way for the negotiation of a genuine political transition, noting with appreciation the mediation efforts to facilitate the establishment of a ceasefire in the Syrian Arab Republic, as noted by the Security Council in its resolution [2336 \(2016\)](#), and supporting the efforts to end violence, while expressing deep concern at the violations, demanding that all parties to the ceasefire in the Syrian Arab Republic respect their commitments, and urging all Member States, especially the members of the International Syria Support Group, to use their influence to ensure respect for those commitments and the full implementation of those resolutions, to support efforts to create conditions for a durable and lasting ceasefire, which is essential to achieving a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, and to bring to an end the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law,

1. *Strongly condemns* the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic and the indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks in civilian areas and against civilian infrastructure, in particular attacks on medical facilities and schools, which continue to claim civilian lives, and demands that all parties comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law;

2. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued armed violence by the Syrian regime against its own people since the beginning of the peaceful protests in 2011, and demands that the Syrian regime immediately put an end to all attacks against civilians, take all feasible precautions to avoid, and in any event to minimize, incidental loss of civilian life, injury to civilians and damage to civilian objects and meet its responsibilities to protect the Syrian population and immediately implement Security Council resolutions [2254 \(2015\)](#), [2258 \(2015\)](#) and [2286 \(2016\)](#);

3. *Urges* all Member States, especially the members of the International Syria Support Group, to create conditions for continued negotiations for a political solution to the Syrian conflict, under the auspices of the United Nations, by working towards

the nationwide ceasefire, to enable full, immediate and safe humanitarian access and to lead to the release of those arbitrarily detained and ensure the assessment of the number of people who remain in prisons, consistent with Security Council resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#), as only a durable and inclusive political solution to the conflict can bring an end to the systematic, widespread and gross violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law;

4. *Strongly condemns* any use of chemical weapons, such as chlorine, sarin and sulfur mustard, by any party to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, emphasizes that the development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, transfer or use of chemical weapons anywhere, at any time, by anyone, under any circumstances, is unacceptable, constitutes one of the most serious crimes under international law, and is a violation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction³⁸ and Security Council resolution [2118 \(2013\)](#), and expresses its strong conviction that individuals responsible for the development, production, acquisition, stockpiling, retention, transfer or use of chemical weapons must and should be held accountable;

5. *Also strongly condemns* the continued use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular the chlorine attack on 4 February 2018 in Saraqib, the attack on 7 April 2018 in Duma and the chlorine attack on 19 May 2019 on Latakia Province, which killed dozens of men, women and children and severely injured hundreds more, recalls the decision of the Security Council that the Syrian Arab Republic shall not use, develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile or retain chemical weapons, or transfer, directly or indirectly, chemical weapons to other States or non-State actors, recalls the relevant reports of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism, and demands that the Syrian regime and so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh) immediately desist from any further use of chemical weapons;

6. *Expresses grave concern* at the chemical weapons attack in Duma on 7 April 2018, and notes the report of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic that a vast body of evidence suggested that chlorine had been dropped by helicopter on a residential building, as well as the report of the fact-finding mission of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons on that attack,³⁵ in which it was stated that the evaluation and analysis of all the information gathered by the mission provided reasonable grounds to believe that the use of a toxic chemical as a weapon had taken place;

7. *Calls for* a significant enhancement of the verification measures of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, welcomes the establishment and operationalization of the Investigation and Identification Team of the Organisation, which is authorized to identify the perpetrators of the use of chemical weapons, looks forward to the first report to be issued by the Team, which will be an important first step towards the ultimate goal of bringing the perpetrators of the use of chemical weapons to justice, and in this regard also welcomes the memorandum of understanding concluded between the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to Assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of Persons Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law Committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011 and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

8. *Welcomes* the issuance of the Secretary-General's bulletin on the records and archives of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons-United Nations Joint Investigative Mechanism,³⁹ and calls upon the Secretary-General to

³⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1974, No. 33757.

³⁹ [ST/SGB/2019/4](#).

ensure that the relevant materials are processed expeditiously to be shared with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism without any further delays;

9. *Demands* that the Syrian regime adhere fully to its international obligations, including the requirement that it declare in full its chemical weapons programme, with special emphasis on the need for the Syrian Arab Republic to urgently resolve the verified gaps, inconsistencies and discrepancies pertaining to its declaration in respect of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction and to eliminate its chemical weapons programme in its entirety, as referred to in the report of the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons dated 22 February 2016⁴⁰ indicating that the Technical Secretariat is at present unable to verify fully that the declaration and related submissions of the Syrian Arab Republic are accurate and complete, as required by the Convention and decision EC-M-33/DEC.1 of the Executive Council of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;⁴¹

10. *Requests* additional procedures for stringent verification pursuant to article IV, paragraph 8, and article V, paragraph 10, of the Convention, in order to ensure the complete destruction of the Syrian chemical weapons programme and prevent any further use of chemical weapons;

11. *Deplores and condemns in the strongest terms* the continued widespread and systematic gross violations and abuses of human rights and fundamental freedoms and all violations of international humanitarian law by the Syrian regime, the government-affiliated militias and those who fight on their behalf, including those deliberately targeting civilians or civilian objects, including attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, with heavy weapons, aerial bombardments, cluster munitions, ballistic missiles, barrel bombs, chemical or other weapons and other force against civilians, as well as the starvation of the civilian population as a method of warfare, attacks on schools, hospitals and places of worship, massacres, arbitrary executions, extrajudicial killings, the killing and persecution of peaceful protesters, human rights defenders and journalists, individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, violations of human rights, including those of women and children, forced displacement of members of minority groups and of those opposed to the Syrian regime, unlawful interference with access to medical treatment, failure to respect and protect medical personnel, torture, systematic sexual and gender-based violence, including rape in detention, and ill-treatment;

12. *Condemns unequivocally* all attacks and violence against journalists and media workers by the Syrian regime, the government-affiliated militias and non-State armed groups, urges all parties to respect the professional independence and rights of journalists, and recalls in this regard that journalists and media workers engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered civilians and shall be protected as such, provided that they take no action adversely affecting their status as civilians;

13. *Strongly condemns* all violations and abuses of human rights and all violations of international humanitarian law, including the killing and persecution of individuals and members of communities on the basis of their religion or belief, by armed extremist groups, as well as any human rights abuses or violations of international humanitarian law by non-State armed groups, including Hizbullah and those designated as terrorist groups by the Security Council;

⁴⁰ EC-81/HP/DG.1.

⁴¹ Security Council resolution 2118 (2013), annex I.

14. *Deplores and strongly condemns* the terrorist acts and violence committed against civilians by so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), the Nusrah Front (also known as Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham), Al-Qaida-affiliated terrorist groups, terrorist groups designated by the Security Council and other violent extremist groups and their continued gross, systematic and widespread abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and reaffirms that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, gender, ethnicity, nationality or civilization;

15. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the gross and systematic abuse of women's and children's rights by all terrorist groups and armed groups, including so-called ISIL (also known as Da'esh), in particular the killing of women and girls, sexual and gender-based violence, including the enslavement and sexual exploitation and abuse of women and girls and the forced recruitment, use and abduction of children;

16. *Condemns* the reported forced displacements of the population in the Syrian Arab Republic, including forced displacement of civilians as a result of local truce agreements, as highlighted by the Commission of Inquiry, and the alarming impact thereof on the demography of the country, which amounts to a strategy of radical demographic change initiated by the Syrian regime, its allies and other non-State actors, calls upon all parties concerned to cease immediately all activities related to these actions, including any activities that may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, notes that impunity for such crimes is unacceptable, reaffirms that those responsible for such breaches of international law, must be brought to justice, and supports efforts to collect evidence in view of future legal action;

17. *Emphasizes* the importance of creating conditions conducive to voluntary, safe, dignified and informed movements of internally displaced persons within the Syrian Arab Republic, and strongly urges all parties to work with the United Nations to ensure that any such movements are in line with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,⁴² and that displaced persons receive the information they need to make informed and voluntary decisions about their movement and safety;

18. *Reminds* the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic of its obligations under the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,⁴³ including its obligation to take effective measures to prevent acts of torture in any territory under its jurisdiction, and calls upon all States parties to the Convention to comply with any relevant obligations under the Convention, including with respect to the principle of extradite or prosecute contained in article 7 of the Convention;

19. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to remain seized of the urgent human rights and humanitarian situation of internally displaced persons in the Syrian Arab Republic, with a view to helping Member States, the United Nations, including the High-level Panel on Internal Displacement established by the Secretary General, and other humanitarian and human rights actors to improve their responses to internal displacement in the Syrian Arab Republic, with a focus on identifying durable solutions for displaced persons, reducing the significant gap between needs and available resources, improving the collection and coordination of data on displacement, including on displaced children, and providing more effective assistance through well-planned programmes;

20. *Strongly condemns* the reported persistent and widespread use of sexual violence, abuse and exploitation, including in government detention centres, including those run by the intelligence agencies, and notes that such acts may

⁴² E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

⁴³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

constitute violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of international human rights law, and in this regard expresses deep concern at the prevailing climate of impunity for sexual and gender-based violence;

21. *Also strongly condemns* all violations and abuses committed against children in contravention of applicable international law, such as their recruitment and use, killing and maiming, rape and all other forms of sexual violence, abductions, denial of humanitarian access for children, and attacks on civilian objects, including schools and hospitals, as well as their arbitrary arrest, unlawful detention, torture and ill-treatment and their use as human shields;

22. *Reaffirms* the Syrian regime's responsibility for the systematic use of enforced disappearances, takes note of the assessment of the Commission of Inquiry that the Syrian regime's use of enforced disappearances amounts to a crime against humanity, and condemns the targeted disappearances of young men and the exploitation of ceasefires as an opportunity to forcibly recruit and arbitrarily detain them;

23. *Demands* that the Syrian regime, in accordance with its obligations under relevant provisions of international human rights law, including the right to life and the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, promote non-discriminatory access to health services and respect and protect medical and health personnel from obstruction, threats and physical attacks;

24. *Strongly condemns* all attacks on medical and health personnel, their means of transport and equipment, as well as on hospitals and other medical facilities, deplores the long-term consequences of such attacks for the population and health-care systems of the Syrian Arab Republic, and reaffirms that humanitarian workers and their means of transport, equipment and facilities must be protected in accordance with international humanitarian law;

25. *Urges* all parties to the conflict to develop effective measures to prevent acts of violence, attacks and threats of attacks against sick and wounded persons, internally displaced persons, as well as medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, hospitals and other medical facilities, including through the conduct of full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations to hold those responsible for any such acts to account;

26. *Expresses its profound concern* about the findings contained in the report of the Commission of Inquiry regarding the displacement of more than half of the 2.5 million people residing in Idlib who have been displaced since the onset of conflict, often multiple times, stresses that the situation in Idlib is of particular concern, expresses its support for the current agreement to cease hostilities in order to avoid a further humanitarian catastrophe, and calls upon the guarantors of that agreement to ensure that the ceasefire is upheld and that access is granted in a rapid, unimpeded and sustainable manner;

27. *Demands* that the Syrian regime cooperate fully with the Commission of Inquiry, including by granting it immediate, full and unhindered access throughout the Syrian Arab Republic;

28. *Strongly condemns* the intervention in the Syrian Arab Republic of all foreign terrorist fighters and those foreign organizations and foreign forces fighting on behalf of the Syrian regime, expresses deep concern that their involvement further exacerbates the deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the human rights and humanitarian situation, which has a serious negative impact on the region, and further demands that all foreign terrorist fighters, and those who are fighting in support of the Syrian regime, including all militias sponsored by foreign Governments, must immediately withdraw from the Syrian Arab Republic;

29. *Demands* that all parties immediately put an end to all violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international humanitarian law, recalls, in particular, the obligation under international humanitarian law to distinguish between civilians and combatants and the prohibition against indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and all attacks against civilians and civilian objects, further demands that all parties to the conflict take all appropriate steps to protect civilians, in compliance with international law, including by desisting from attacks directed against civilian objects, such as medical centres, schools and water stations, and refrain from militarizing such facilities, seek to avoid establishing military positions in densely populated areas and enable the evacuation of the wounded and all civilians who wish to leave areas of conflict, including besieged areas, and recalls in this regard that the Syrian regime bears primary responsibility for protecting its population;

30. *Condemns in the strongest terms* all attacks on protected objects, including indiscriminate and disproportionate attacks and those which may constitute a war crime, taking place in the Syrian Arab Republic, and requests the Commission of Inquiry to continue to investigate all such acts, and demands that the Syrian regime meet its responsibility to protect the Syrian population;

31. *Demands* that the Syrian regime immediately cease any attacks on civilians, any disproportionate attacks and any indiscriminate use of weapons in populated areas, and recalls in this regard the obligation to respect international humanitarian law in all circumstances;

32. *Emphasizes* the need for accountability for crimes involving breaches of international law, in particular of international humanitarian law and human rights law, some of which may constitute war crimes or crimes against humanity, committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011, through fair and independent investigations and prosecutions at the domestic or international level;

33. *Urges* all Member States and, in particular, parties to the conflict to cooperate fully with the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism, including through the provision of relevant information and documentation, stresses its mandate to closely cooperate with the Commission of Inquiry, also urges the Mechanism to make a particular effort to ensure consultation and cooperation with Syrian civil society organizations by concluding cooperation frameworks, and requests the United Nations system as a whole to enhance cooperation with the Mechanism and to promptly respond to any request, including access to all information and documentation, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [71/248](#);

34. *Welcomes* the inclusion of the full funding for the International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism in the budget proposal of the Secretary-General for 2020, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [73/182](#), and emphasizes the need to fully implement its previous decisions on the funding of the Mechanism in order to ensure that the Mechanism can operate at its full capacity as soon as possible;

35. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure that all those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law or violations and abuses of human rights law are held to account through appropriate, fair and independent domestic or international criminal justice mechanisms, in accordance with the principle of complementarity, stresses the need to pursue practical steps towards this goal, and for that reason encourages the Security Council to take appropriate action to ensure accountability, noting the important role that the International Criminal Court can play in this regard;

36. *Welcomes* the efforts by States to investigate conduct in the Syrian Arab Republic and to prosecute crimes within their jurisdiction committed in the Syrian Arab Republic, encourages them to continue to do so and to share relevant

information between States in accordance with their national legislation and international law, and also encourages other States to consider doing the same;

37. *Urgently requests* the convening of a high-level panel discussion, funded by voluntary contributions, led by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights, the Commission of Inquiry and Syrian civil society to brief the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic, and encourages United Nations monitoring and reporting to help this panel to further document violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, including those that may amount to crimes against humanity and war crimes, to provide recommendations to facilitate improvements in civilian protection and accountability measures, and to feature witness testimony of Syrian human rights defenders and other Syrian voices through appropriate and safe means;

38. *Deplores* the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the international community to assume its responsibility for providing urgent financial support to enable the host countries and communities to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of Syrian refugees, while emphasizing the principle of burden-sharing;

39. *Calls upon* all members of the international community, including all donors, to fulfil their previous pledges and continue to provide much-needed support to the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other humanitarian actors to provide humanitarian assistance to the millions of Syrians who are in need, including those displaced both internally and in host countries and communities;

40. *Welcomes* the efforts of those countries outside the region that have put in place measures and policies to assist and host Syrian refugees, encourages them to do more, also encourages other States outside the region to consider implementing similar measures and policies, with a view to providing Syrian refugees with protection and humanitarian assistance, and acknowledges the need to improve the conditions on the ground to facilitate the return of refugees in a safe, voluntary and dignified manner to their place of origin or choice;

41. *Strongly condemns* the intentional denial of humanitarian assistance to civilians, from whatever quarter, and in particular the denial of medical assistance and the withdrawal of water and sanitation services to civilian areas, which has recently worsened, stressing that the starvation of civilians as a method of warfare is prohibited under international law, and noting especially the primary responsibility of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic in this regard;

42. *Demands* that the Syrian regime and all other parties to the conflict ensure the full, immediate, unimpeded and sustained access of the United Nations and humanitarian actors, including to besieged and hard-to-reach areas such as Rukban, from Damascus, that the Syrian regime cease to impede the ability of the United Nations and humanitarian actors to move through the north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic and beyond, and that all parties to the conflict preserve the Faysh Khabur border crossing and allow sustained deliveries of humanitarian assistance to persons in need across the Syrian Arab Republic, including through commercial routes, consistent with Security Council resolutions [2139 \(2014\)](#), [2165 \(2014\)](#), [2191 \(2014\)](#), [2254 \(2015\)](#), [2258 \(2015\)](#), [2332 \(2016\)](#), [2393 \(2017\)](#), [2401 \(2018\)](#) and [2449 \(2018\)](#);

43. *Strongly condemns* practices including abduction, hostage-taking, arbitrary and incommunicado detention, torture, the murder of innocent civilians and summary executions carried out by non-State armed groups and terrorist groups designated by the Security Council, most notably so-called ISIL (also known as

Da'esh) and the Nusrah Front (also known as Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham), and underlines that such acts may amount to crimes against humanity;

44. *Deplores* the suffering and torture in detention centres throughout the Syrian Arab Republic, as depicted in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as in the evidence presented by "Caesar" in January 2014, and in the reports of widespread killing of detainees by Syrian military intelligence;

45. *Strongly condemns* the reported killing of detainees in Syrian military intelligence facilities, and calls upon the Syrian regime to release all unlawfully held detainees, including women, children and the elderly, and to facilitate information about those who died while in detention by the Syrian regime, as and return their remains, with full transparency regarding what happened to these individuals;

46. *Calls for* the appropriate international monitoring bodies to be granted access to detainees in government prisons and detention centres, including all military facilities referred to in the reports of the Commission of Inquiry;

47. *Demands* that all parties take all appropriate steps to protect civilians and persons hors de combat, including persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and stresses that, in this regard, the primary responsibility to protect the population lies with the Syrian regime;

48. *Strongly condemns* the damage and destruction of the cultural heritage of the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular that of Palmyra and Aleppo, and the organized looting and trafficking of Syrian cultural property, as outlined by the Security Council in its resolutions [2199 \(2015\)](#) of 12 February 2015 and [2347 \(2017\)](#) of 24 March 2017, affirms that attacks intentionally directed against historic monuments may amount to war crimes, and underlines the need to bring the perpetrators of such crimes to justice;

49. *Notes with concern* the recent escalation of violence in the north-east of the Syrian Arab Republic, which has seriously undermined the stability and security of the whole region, with a risk of further undermining the political process, eroded progress in the fight against ISIL (also known as Da'esh), worsened the humanitarian situation and led to additional widespread displacement, and further emphasizes that any attempt to bring about demographic change in the region would be unacceptable;

50. *Stresses* the situation of particular concern in the northern part of the province of Aleppo, as well as Idlib, strongly condemns the attacks on civilians and first responders and civilian infrastructure where ongoing violence, including airstrikes, continues to cause death and injury among civilians and first responders, as well as devastating damage to civilian infrastructure, including health-care and educational facilities, and welcomes the establishment of the United Nations board of inquiry mandated to investigate the destruction of and damage to facilities on the United Nations deconfliction list and United Nations-supported facilities;

51. *Urges* all parties to the conflict to take all appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, personnel of the specialized agencies and all other personnel engaged in humanitarian relief activities, including national and locally recruited personnel, as required by international humanitarian law, without prejudice to their freedom of movement and access, stresses the need not to impede or hinder these efforts, recalls that attacks on humanitarian workers may amount to war crimes, and notes in this regard that the Security Council has reaffirmed that it will take further measures in the event of non-compliance with its resolutions [2139 \(2014\)](#), [2165 \(2014\)](#), [2191 \(2014\)](#), [2234 \(2015\)](#), [2258 \(2015\)](#), [2286 \(2016\)](#), [2393 \(2017\)](#), [2401 \(2018\)](#) and [2449 \(2018\)](#) by any Syrian party;

52. *Urges* the international community to support the leadership and full, effective and meaningful participation of women in all efforts aimed at finding a political solution to the Syrian crisis, as envisaged by the Security Council in its resolutions [1325 \(2000\)](#), [2122 \(2013\)](#) of 18 October 2013 and [2242 \(2015\)](#) of 13 October 2015;

53. *Reaffirms* that there can only be a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, reiterates its commitment to the national unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic, and urges the parties to the conflict to abstain from actions that may contribute to the continuing deterioration of the human rights, security and humanitarian situation, in order to reach a genuine political transition, based on the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria of 30 June 2012,³⁰ consistent with Security Council resolutions [2254 \(2015\)](#) and [2268 \(2016\)](#), that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people for a civil, democratic and pluralistic State, with the full and effective participation of women, where there is no room for sectarianism or discrimination on ethnic, religious, linguistic, gender or any other grounds, and where all persons receive equal protection, regardless of gender, religion or ethnicity, and further demands that all parties work urgently towards the comprehensive implementation of the final communiqué, including through the establishment of an inclusive transitional governing body with full executive powers, which shall be formed on the basis of mutual consent while ensuring the continuity of governmental institutions.
